

TURKISH QUAKE DISASTER

See Page 6

LATE NIGHT **FINAL**

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Peace Made In Europe To-Day Would Be Allied

STEP TOWARDS SUICIDE

THREE TONS OF MUNITIONS UNEARTHED

Dublin, To-day.
It is revealed that at least three tons of the ammunition stolen by raiders of the Irish Republican Army from Phoenix Park has now been recovered.

The third biggest dump has been unearthed immediately off the main Belfast-Dublin road, at Julianstown, Co., Meath.—Reuter.

NAZI SUPER TAX NOW DOUBLED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Bern, To-day.

The Berlin correspondent of the "Neue Zuercher Zeitung" reports that the special war super tax on incomes has been doubled in Germany, and income from taxation is now 75 per cent. higher than at the beginning of the war.

The correspondent also reports that many German firms are experiencing the greatest difficulty owing to the decrease in business caused by the lack of goods and the rationing system.

Many shops will not reopen on January 1 after the holidays.—Havas.

THE HOPKINS MANUSCRIPT

The "China Mail" takes pleasure in presenting to-day the first instalment of a ten-day serial version of R.C. Sherriff's sensational best-seller, "The Hopkins Manuscript."

One of the most brilliant "world disaster" stories ever written, it begins in Page 16.

U.S. DECIDES TO TIGHTEN UP DEFENCE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Washington, To-day.

The War Department has ordered further reinforcement of the Caribbean and Pacific defences.

Fifty-two new air squadrons will

LONDON, TO-DAY.

"THE ALLIED POWERS WOULD TAKE A MAJOR STEP TOWARDS SUICIDE IF EUROPEAN PEACE WERE MADE NOW."

This estimate of the war situation was made, says the Washington correspondent of "The Times" at the annual meeting yesterday of the American Political Science Association, the speaker being Professor Clifton Utley, of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations.

Professor Utley predicted that the war would continue through 1940 with losses for all, including neutrals, and peace for none.

The speaker put very bluntly what others in the United States are now saying, as to the unlikelihood that any early peace initiative from a neutral source could succeed.

The general effect of his address was to lend force to the reminder from President Roosevelt that a "specific plan" is not yet in sight, and from the Pope that "an opportune moment" must be awaited.

THE INDISPENSABLE

What is implicit in the President's letter of December 23 and the Pope's address to the College of Cardinals, says Walter Lippmann is: "The war will continue since Hitler and Stalin are as yet unprepared to meet the indispensable condition for peace . . . reparation of the wrongs done to Poland, Finland and Czechoslovakia."

"President Roosevelt spoke of the liberation of those countries as the day that would 'loose the captives and consume their conquerors in a fire of their own kindling.'"

NEW ORDER

But Mr. Lippmann, famed political commentator, is at one with the Pope in the belief that the extent of the reparation to come should not be determined by the victors alone and that unless the rest of the world "participates in the founding of the post-war order, there will be no enduring settlement" in a world which will need a programme of relief, reconstruction and spiritual succour beyond anything ever undertaken in history.

President Roosevelt is sending Mr. Myron Taylor to Rome to prepare the ground and he is enlisting the influence of American Churches to the same end.

He will also have to see to it that Congress, which will meet next month, can rise above party politics to the same high ultimate purpose.—Reuter.

be formed and stationed at bases spread between the Panama Canal, Hawaii and Alaska, on one side, and between Panama, Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands on the other side.—Havas.

WEATHER FORECAST: — North-east winds, fresh, fine.

DUISBURG SCUTTLED

LONDON, TO-DAY.

PARIS RADIO ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT THAT THE 7,000-TON HAMBURG MOTORSHIP, DUISBURG, WHICH LEFT A SPANISH PORT IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO STEAL THROUGH THE BLOCKADE OF GERMANY, HAS BEEN SCUTTLED BY HER CREW.

The vessel, belonging to the Hamburg-Amerika Line, was yesterday ordered to "heave-to" by a British patrol ship, according to the Paris re-

BRITISH VOLUNTEER UNITS FOR FINLAND

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.

Authoritative quarters are of opinion that the first days of the New Year will witness the beginning of effective help on a large scale for Finland.

Not only war material but also volunteer units will probably be shipped to Finland.

Large orders for Finland are now being placed in Italy by Britain and France, and both countries will co-operate in ensuring the safe and quick transportation of these arms.

It is also expected that the smaller countries will unite in closer co-operation with Finland with a view to stopping the Communist advance.—Havas.

port, endeavoured to escape, but finding the British vessel overtaking her, abandoned the attempt.

Her sea-cocks were opened and she was in a sinking condition when her crew were taken off.—Reuter.



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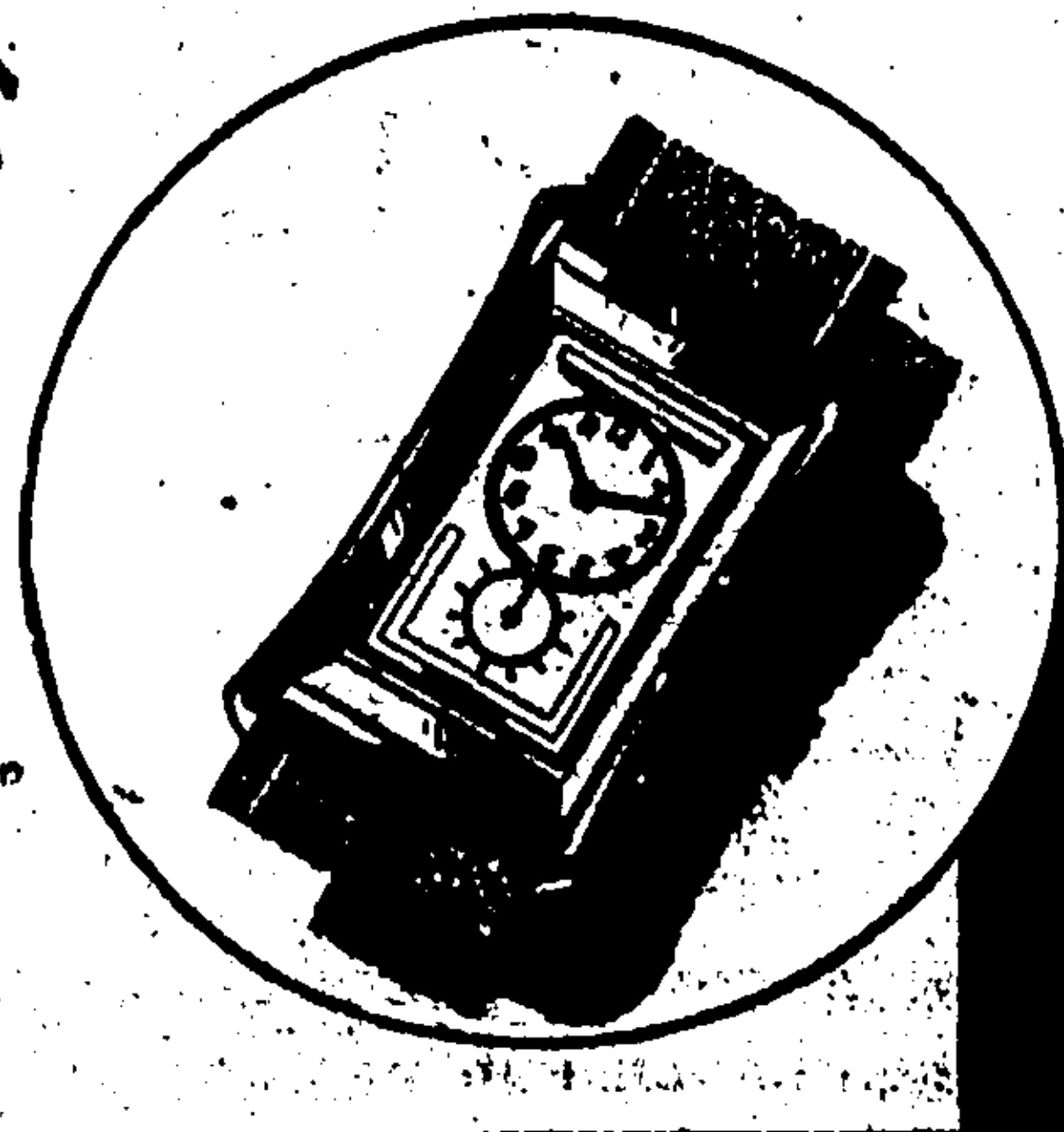
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RIGOROUS EFFORTS IN EIRE TO TRACE AMMUNITION

Dublin, To-day.

AN ARMED MILITARY cordon still ringed the city last night as police and troops continued to search for the ammunition stolen from Phoenix Park on Saturday.

Thirty arrests, it is estimated, have now been made. The search goes on not only in the capital but in the woods and lanes of County Kildare and County Wicklow, where fields and hedges on estates are being thoroughly combed.

In Dublin military patrols continued to search all cars entering or leaving the city, which is so completely cordoned that it is impossible to enter or leave without passing through at least one patrol.

All pedestrians carrying cases are stopped and searched, and in the country districts the quest is even more thorough, for everyone, whether walking or cycling, has to submit to examination and explain whence he is coming and whither he is going.

The Government is offering a reward of £1,000 for information leading to the recovery of the stolen ammunition.

Substantial rewards will be paid in respect of recovery of any portion of the ammunition.—Reuter.

FRENCH CONTRABAND CONTROL

London, To-day.

According to a Paris message the contraband control of the French Navy held up 16 ships and intercepted 40,000 tons of goods destined for Germany during the week ended December 24.

France has so far intercepted 402,000 tons of German-bound merchandise since the beginning of war.—British Wireless.

Mr. D. W. Munton, manager of the China Light and Power Company, Limited, has reported that tools valued at \$40, were stolen from his car on Saturday night, outside the Kowloon Godowns.

WHITEHALL MOVING OUT

London, To-day.

The evacuation of civil servants from London will continue.

It was announced yesterday that the Government has re-considered the matter and now re-affirms its decision that all Government departments which can function away from London must leave.

One estimate says that 15,000 civil servants have already gone, 5,000 more are expected to go shortly and that 80,000 are still in London.

Those who still remain are expected to protest at any extension of the evacuation scheme.—Reuter.

RHODESIA'S PART IN WAR

London, To-day.

The Southern Rhodesia Minister of Justice and Defence is to visit London shortly by air for discussions on the war.

The main subject of his discussions will be war finance, but it is expected that the expansion of air training in Rhodesia, the supply of Rhodesian products and the further use of Rhodesian fruits will also be on the agenda.—Reuter.

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A 20th Century-Fox Picture

SUPERIOR IN ALL BUT NUMBERS

London, To-day.

MOST OF THE BRITISH newspapers yesterday had leading articles on Finland's successful defence against the Soviets.

The "Daily Telegraph," for instance, says that the Finns have shown themselves to be far superior to the invaders in all but numbers.

Commenting on the Soviet Government's attempt to conceal news of Soviet losses from its own people, the paper says that there is evidence that the veil of secrecy is being pierced, and that the Russian people are beginning to realise the miscalculations of their leaders. Heavy losses could not be concealed for very long.

Both the "Daily Telegraph" and "The Times" deal with Finland's need for help.

FRIENDS OF LIBERTY

"The Times" says that Sweden and Norway have done a great deal and are prepared to do more, the United States has helped generously, Great Britain and France have gone so far as to release munitions and supplies manufactured for their own needs, while South Africa has similarly released aeroplanes originally intended for the defence of the Union.

"All that these friends of liberty can do will not be too much," says "The Times," and adds that "Finland's salvation will be a triumph for liberty which will re-echo throughout the world."

The "Daily Herald" points out that if one lives in a democracy, one is treated as a human being; one cannot be transported from one part of the country to another unless one has broken the law. Not so in Germany and Russia, where thousands were moved from their ancestral homes to suit the strategic aims of their leaders. "They are shifted like cattle," the paper says.

REMARKABLE FACT

The "News Chronicle" says that it is remarkable that in Britain, in the first four months of the war, most of Britain's political and civil liberties still remain intact. This is as it should be.

It was striking that several organizations should be permitted to carry on propaganda against the war. The most notable of these were the British Union (which at one time was the British Union of Fascists) and the Communist Party.

The first is clearly discredited and now harmless, while the latter has lost its unity and guiding power as a result of the present Soviet policy.

They can still carry on, however, trying to influence people and unless they become clearly seditious they will not be suppressed.—Reuter.

ITALIAN VOLUNTEERS IN FINLAND

HELSINKI, TO-DAY.

IT IS FREELY REPORTED THAT AT LEAST 2,000 ITALIAN VOLUNTEERS HAVE ARRIVED TO FIGHT AGAINST THE SOVIETS, BUT THIS IS NOT CONFIRMED AS YET IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES.

At the same time, three Swedish volunteer contingents have arrived and a large Danish ambulance unit is on its way.

Appeals from Finland for active as well as moral support received a reply in a broadcast by the Norwegian Foreign Minister.

Norway, he said, must pursue her course of non-participation because her whole defence system is based on that idea.

Nevertheless Norway joins wholeheartedly in all appeals for moral and humanitarian aid.—Reuter.

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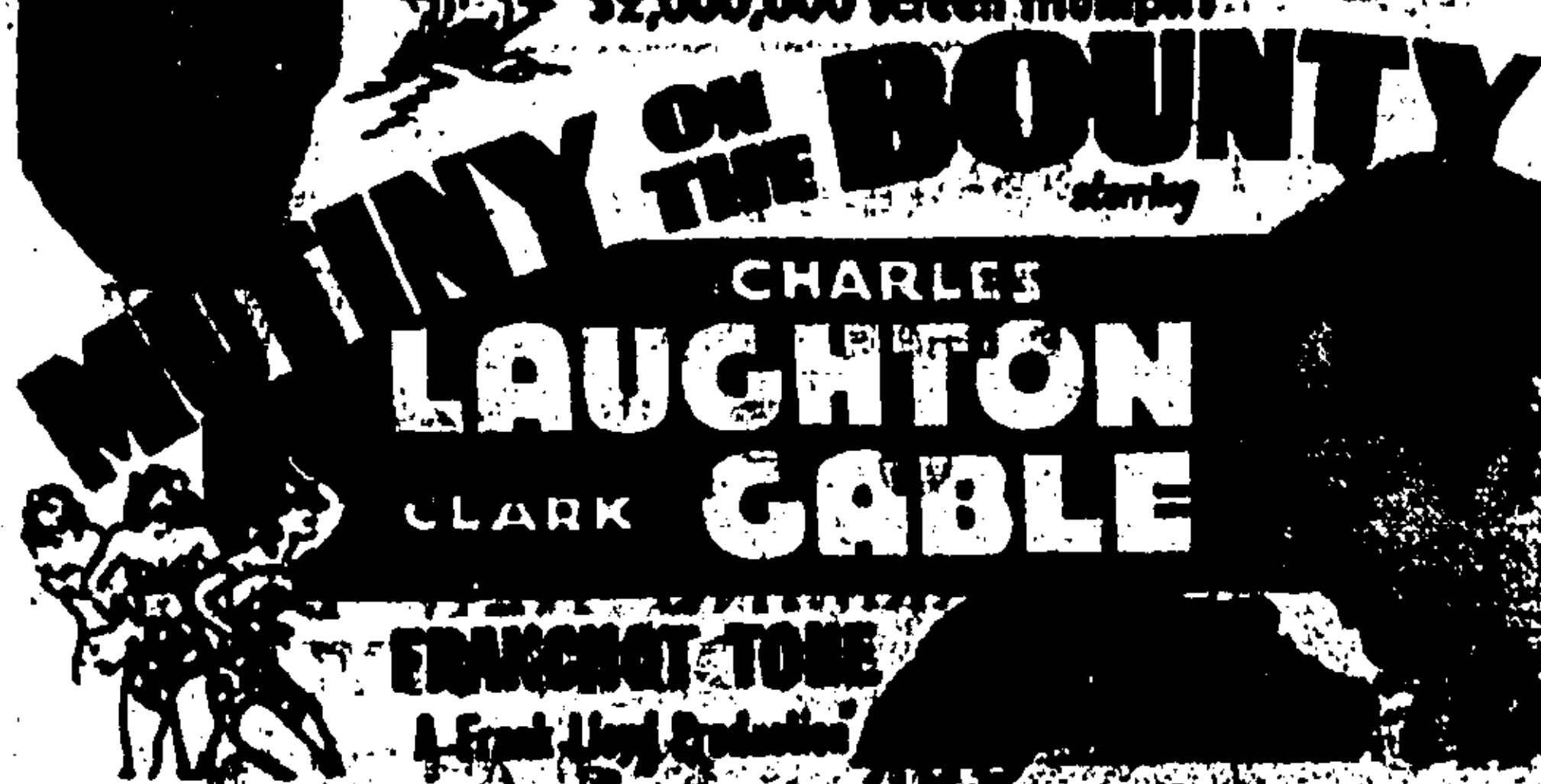
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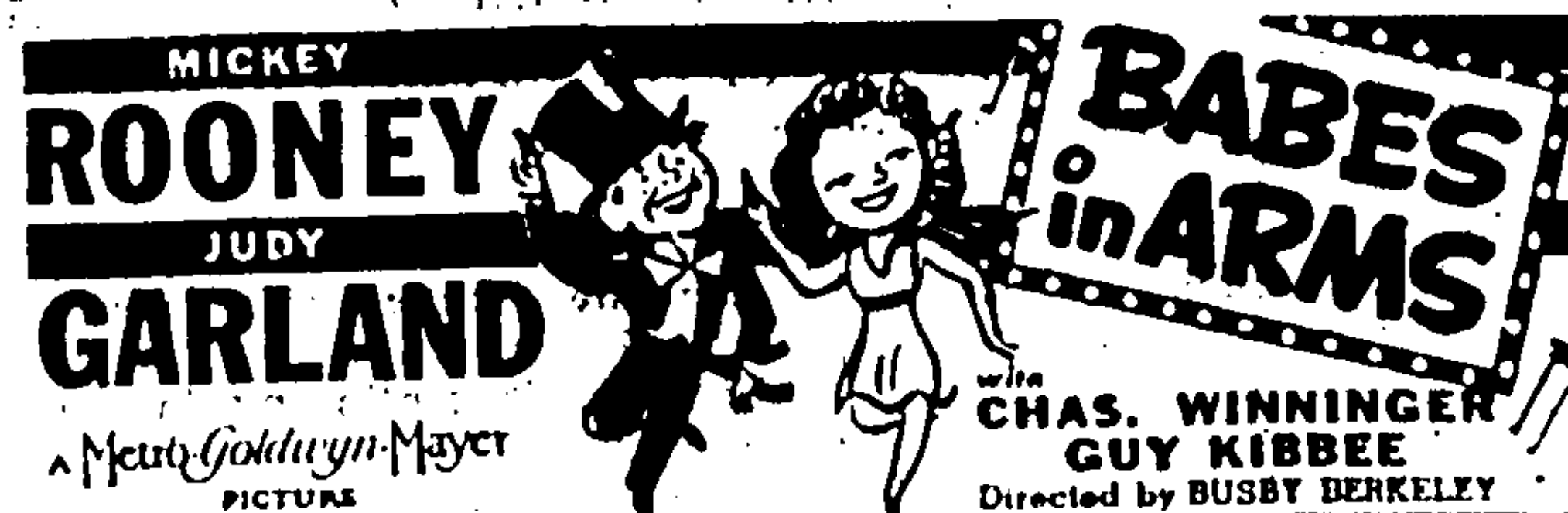
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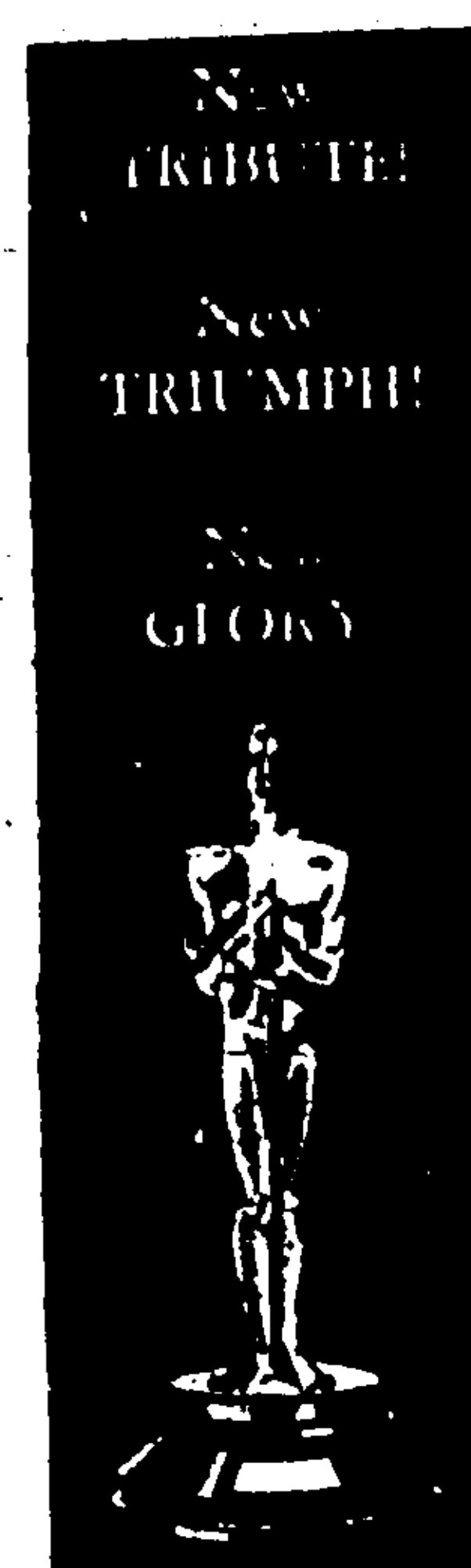
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QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL



Finns Penetrate Soviet Territory At Two Points

DRIVE SEEKING TO CUT RAILWAY TO MURMANSK

Helsinki, To-day.

TWO DETACHMENTS OF Finnish ski troops have now penetrated Soviet Russian territory and are heading for the Murmansk/Leningrad railway, with the object of cutting it.

In view of their small numbers, they are avoiding heavy engagements. They are headed for Kandalaksha, which is situated at a spot where the railway skirts the White Sea at its northern end.

If they can cut the railway and hang on in that area, the Soviets will be unable to get reinforcements and supplies through to the Petsamo Front.

Meanwhile, on the Petsamo Front, the Russians have completely lost the initiative and are practically in a state of siege.

A Finnish officer who has just returned from that area reports that at least 150 Soviet tanks are snow-bound, and in many cases the Finns found their crews frozen to death inside. The crews of others either surrendered or fled.

In other cases, the Soviet tank detachments have placed their tanks in a circle, forming a small but effective fortress. They are difficult to attack, but at the same time are isolated and useless to the main drive.

HEAVY RED LOSSES

On the Central Front, the Soviets have lost large quantities of men and materials in their retreat, while the last reports from the Southern Front stated that Soviet attacks on the Mannerheim Line and in the south-east had been repulsed.

Snow fell in Helsinki yesterday and as the storm seems to be general, little air activity is likely. — Reuter.

FRONTIER CROSSED AT ANOTHER POINT

Helsinki, To-day.

While fighting continues on Russian soil east of Lieksa the Finns are

reported to have pushed the Red Army across the frontier at a new point some miles north.

Fighting is continuing in the border region of Klivvaara.

Reports received here suggest that the Soviet command is preparing a determined attempt to retrieve the situation near Suomussalmi, where they recently suffered a severe reverse.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT

The Russians are attacking north of Suomussalmi with the evident object of making another attempt to break through the "wasp waist" to Oulu, at the head of the Gulf of Finland.

The Soviet troops which had been dispersed at Suomussalmi have been reconcentrated against the Finnish centre for a new drive. — Reuter.

DRIVE FOR RAILWAY

Helsinki, To-day.

It is officially confirmed that Finnish forces have invaded Soviet territory in pursuit of Red Army contingents at two points, but there is as yet no confirmation of reports that the Murmansk-Leningrad Railway has been reached and cut.

No bombs were dropped when Soviet planes soared over the capital in large numbers yesterday, but it is feared that this may have been a preliminary recon-

SUGAR RATIONING IN BRITAIN

London, To-day.

Official sugar rationing begins in Britain on January 8, together with bacon and butter. The sugar ration will be 12 ounces per person per week.

All those in Britain must register for meat-rationing by Monday week, and the control of livestock begins a week later. — Reuter.

WANCHAI INCIDENT

Hugh Denman Kessler, 21, of the U.S.S. Mindanao, was charged before Mr. R. A. D. Forrest this morning, with assault of John Mutto, proprietor of Malaya Motors, No. 100, Gloucester Road.

Acting Sub-Inspector Clarke said that at about 1 o'clock this morning, Mr. Mutto was standing outside his shop, when defendant passed with a girl. Defendant later came up and struck Mutto in the face.

Defendant thought complainant had made an insulting remark as he passed.

Defendant was fined \$10.

SOVIET CHANGING MANNERHEIM LINE TACTICS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Bernie, To-day.

THE HELSINKI correspondent of the "Basler Nachrichten" reports that the Red Army command has abandoned its tactics of mass attack against the Mannerheim Line in the Karelian Isthmus and is now trying to filter in between the fortifications and surprise the defenders.

The change is due not only to the heavy losses in men and material experienced in frontal attacks, but also to the bitter cold which makes the provisioning and concentration of troops extremely difficult.

A shortage of food, due to disruption of railway traffic caused by the war, is being felt in Murmansk, where dissatisfaction is growing among the population and soldiers.

Many arrests are reported. Notices have been posted throughout the city warning the population against spreading alarming rumours. — Havas.

RAILWAY BOMBED (SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Helsinki, To-day.

Finnish aeroplanes flew deep into Soviet territory yesterday, bombing and damaging the Leningrad/Murmansk railway line, while three Finnish army columns moved forward towards the railway by land.

The railway was packed with Soviet troops bound for the Petsamo

naissance for a mass air raid.

TWO COMPANIES ANNIHILATED In fighting on the Karelian front, the official communique states that two Soviet companies, consisting of 800 men, were annihilated yesterday, while Soviet attacks immediately to the north of Lake Ladoga were repulsed with heavy loss.

Nine Soviet aircraft were shot down during the day. — Reuter.

Front, and the damage to the line has caused a great deal of congestion.

The Finns have now penetrated Soviet territory at three places, in the north, centre and south. The latter is their deepest advance, and they are said advanced north of Lake Ladoga to some 30 miles from the Soviet town of Latala.

The Finnish troops, however, are now moving more slowly, as a result of the heavy snow-fall, which in one case forced them to withdraw from a town they were attacking. — Havas.

TRAFFIC OFFENCE

Mr. M. Talan, of American Lloyd, was summoned before Mr. R. A. D. Forrest this morning for parking overtime in Pedder Street. A fine of \$5 was imposed.

Mr. C. N. Dunn was fined \$5 for a similar offence.

MOSCOW SILENT

Moscow, To-day.

An official war communique states: "There is no event of importance to report from the front." — Reuter.

OFF THE RECORD

By Ed Reed



ED REED (10-5 The Register and Tribune Syndicate)

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EARTHQUAKE DISASTER

Over 9,000 Feared Dead In Turkish Holocaust

INDIAN TROOPS NOW IN FRANCE

Paris, To-day. Indian troops, led by British and Indian officers, have arrived in France with a large number of mules. The men are all Moslems from all parts of India, and are accompanied by a smaller "army" of non-combatants—religious teachers, cooks and water carriers.

They have brought their own food with them and in addition will be given certain food supplies given to the B.E.F.—tea, sugar and fresh vegetables.—Reuter.

ANGLO-FRENCH ARMY CO-OPERATION

London, To-day. Major-General Fraser, who is in

GERMAN WAR "ACES" AID SOUTH AFRICA

Capetown, To-day. Three airmen, crack German pilots of the last war, have joined the Active Citizens' Unit of the South African Air Force. Their names are not being made public, because they still have relatives in Germany, but one of them is one of the most famous war pilots Germany has ever had.—Reuter.

command of New Zealand troops overseas, said yesterday that he was greatly struck by the co-operation he had seen between the French and British troops in France. — Reuter.

TWELVE CITIES AND 80 VILLAGES DESTROYED

Ankara, To-day.

THE ANATOLIA EARTHQUAKE is the worst in Turkey's history. Communications are almost completely cut off, but it is almost certain that at least 9,000 people have lost their lives.

Twelve cities and 80 villages are in burning ruins, and the people are camping out in the frozen fields. Many of the fires were caused by broken gas and oil pipes and means for fighting them is scanty.

Relief parties are finding it difficult to get through to the stricken districts.

The Turkish Parliament is to hold a special session to appeal for relief funds, while M. Inenou, the Premier, is personally directing relief operations. — Reuter.

FIRES HAMPER RELIEF WORKERS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") Ankara, To-day.

Hundreds of fires are hampering the efforts of workers, who are trying to get at the many, whose number is believed to number thousands, who are still buried under debris in various areas, waiting to be rescued.

Ten officers and 40 cadets were killed when a military club collapsed and caught fire. — Havas.

SUFFERING AND DESPAIR

Istanbul, To-day.

While exact details are not likely to be available for many days, the earthquake in Anatolia was undoubtedly the greatest natural disaster that has ever befallen the country.

Twelve provincial towns and over 80 villages were partly or completely wrecked.

President Inenou, as well as the Ministers of Health and the Interior, are hastening to the devastated area, in which scenes of suffering and despair everywhere greeted relief parties. — Reuter.

HEAVY DAMAGE IN CELEBES ISLAND

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") Amsterdam, To-day.

The earthquake which shook Celebes Island on December 22 caused damage throughout the large territory, the full extent of which cannot yet be determined owing to lack of communication with the more remote sections of the island.

It has, however, been established that in Banggai alone more than three hundred houses were destroyed.

Many roads into the interior have been damaged. — Havas.

ADMIRAL TOWNSEND PASSES

New York, To-day.

The death has occurred at the age of 88 of Rear-Admiral Julius Curtis Townsend, who commanded the United States naval and aviation base at Queenstown, Ireland, during the Great War.—Reuter.

H.M. TRAWLER LOST WITH ALL HANDS

London, To-day.

H.M. trawler Loch Doon is overdue and must be presumed to have been lost, according to an Admiralty announcement. The crew numbered 15.—Reuter.

THE NAVY THAT FLIES

LONDON, TO-DAY.

IN A BROADCAST LAST EVENING DEALING WITH "THE NAVY THAT FLIES," "A NAVAL EYE-WITNESS," RECALLING HOW THE FLEET AIR ARM WAS ONCE A BRANCH OF THE R.A.F., TO WHICH THE ROYAL NAVY CONTRIBUTED THREE-QUARTERS OF THE PILOTS AND ALL THE OBSERVERS, SAID THAT ALTHOUGH ADMINISTERED WHEN ASHORE BY THE R.A.F. AND WHEN AFLOAT BY THE NAVY, THE ARRANGEMENT WORKED WELL BECAUSE IT WAS FOUNDED ON UNBOUNDED GOODWILL.

In spite of this, the scheme had inherent disadvantages which no amount of goodwill could overcome, and in consequence the Fleet Air Arm became part of the Royal Navy, living for the most part in aircraft carriers and in the larger warships.

As the speaker said, there is a great deal of close co-operation in certain parts of the coast between the R.A.F. and the Navy, as witness the defence of a convoy some weeks ago, when the Navy called on the R.A.F., who came out to shoot down seven of twelve attacking Nazis and to drive off the remainder. — British Wireless.

FREEDOM STATION BEGINS ANEW

LONDON, TO-DAY.

THE SAFE ARRIVAL OF INDIAN, CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN FORCES IN EUROPE WAS THE THEME OF THE GERMAN FREEDOM STATION'S BROADCAST YESTERDAY.

The announcer, of the anti-Nazi wireless station described the arrivals as striking proof of Dr. Goebbels' mendacity, and concluded that Germany was unable to prevent all these men traversing the seas.

"Now, Goebbels, who is it rules the seven seas?" the announcer asked. — Reuter.

FINNISH SERVICE OF INTERCESSION

London, To-day.

The Finnish Minister will attend a service of intercession for Finland to be held at Westminster Central Hall next Sunday.

The service will be conducted by the Moderator of the Federal Community of Free Churches, and prayers will be read by the President of the National Council of Evangelical Free Churches.—British Wireless.

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JAPANESE HIGH OPTIMISM UNDERGOES SWIFT CHANGE: U.S. ATTITUDE RESENTED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Tokyo, To-day.

JAPANESE RESENTMENT in face of the unenthusiastic reaction of Washington to the proposal of the re-opening of the Yangtse is daily growing and several papers advise the public against the idea of concluding a temporary trade agreement with the United States.

They declare that Washington is seeking a dilatory solution and is desiring to retain means to bring pressure to bear upon Japan.

The influential "Asahi Shimbun" declares that the American decision of December 22 to waive the additional fees imposed on Japanese ships is not sufficient and demands from the United States guarantees with regard to other problems, such as the right for Japanese to reside in U.S.A., the right to open consulates and to register in America Japanese trade marks.

The paper adds that the American Ambassador, Mr. Joseph Grew, when he visited the Foreign Minister, Admiral Nomura on December 22 suggested that a discussion on a new commercial treaty could be started only after a satisfactory solution of problems involving American rights in China.

CURRENCY CONTROL

He included among the essential prerequisites, the abolition of Japanese control of the currency and the discontinuation of Japanese monopolistic activities.

The "Kokumin Shimbun" asserts that Washington's cool reaction to the proposal to re-open the Yangtse was exemplified in Mr. Cordell Hull's answer to Mr. Horinouchi, the Japanese Ambassador in Washington, on December 23: "It is only one aspect of the Open Door problem."

The paper further asserts that Mr. Eugene Dooman, Counsellor of the American Embassy, warned Mr. Seiji Yoshizawa, head of the Foreign

Office American Division, on Boxing Day against the excessive optimism of the Tokyo press which, in its comments, had conveyed the impression that negotiations for a new trade treaty had already opened.

GOVERNMENT ADVISED

The "Yomiuri Shimbun" advises the Government not to accept a provisional trade agreement which, the paper says would permit the United States to continue to bring pressure on Japan, secondly, would encourage Britain to assume the same attitude and, thirdly, might revitalize Gen. Chiang Kai-shek and compel Wang Ching-wei to "walkout."—Havas.

DIPLOMATS MAKING FOR CHUNGKING

CHUNGKING, TO-DAY.

CHUNGKING WILL HAVE A LARGE GATHERING OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS HERE NEXT MONTH WITH THE EXPECTED ARRIVAL OF THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN AMBASSADORS.

News of the early arrival of the British Ambassador is generally known in Chungking, which is evincing considerable interest as to what issues he would discuss with the Chinese Government during his visit. The American Ambassador, who is staying in Peiping for the year-end holidays, is returning to Chungking early in January.

The French and Soviet Ambassadors are already here.

The Turkish Minister and the Chilean charge d'affaires have just presented their credentials.

Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany have resident representatives here. — Reuter.

JAP. RAIDERS SHOT DOWN

Chungking, To-day.

At least three Japanese bombers were shot down in aerial battles on Tuesday, when 99 planes in three groups raided Lanchow, capital of Kansu province, according to Chinese reports.

As the Japanese aircraft appeared over Lanchow, it is stated, Chinese pursuit planes engaged them.—Reuter.

WANG NOW HAS A RADIO STATION

Shanghai, To-day.

Wang Ching-wei's broadcasting station was inaugurated yesterday. The station is broadcasting on the same wave length as Chungking. — Our Own Correspondent.

VISIT TO R.A.F.

London, To-day.

Sir Samuel Hoare (Lord Privy Seal) and Lord Hankey (Minister Without Portfolio) visited headquarters of the R.A.F. in France on their way to the Maginot Line from Paris yesterday.—British Wireless.

AMERICAN PROTEST IN TIENTSIN

TIENTSIN, TO-DAY.

A REQUEST FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE BARRIERS AND RESTRICTIONS IN TIENTSIN WAS MADE YESTERDAY BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, WHO CALLED ON LT.-GEN. HOMMA, COMMANDER OF THE JAPANESE GARRISON.

Their visit was made in connection with the difficulties experienced by American business circles in Tientsin owing to the Japanese blockade.

They presented a memorandum asking that the barriers be removed in the interest of general trade or, if this should prove impossible, that special instructions be given at the barriers to permit American citizens and their families to go through without having to pass through the examination booths.

Lt.-Gen. Homma, whose attitude was very cordial, said that removal of the barriers depended upon instructions from Tokyo, but the second request would receive his serious attention.

In conclusion, Lt.-Gen. Homma reminded the American representatives that the war was still in progress, and counselled patience.—Reuter.

might cease supporting General Chiang Kai-shek, "Le Temps" adds that nothing at present suggests that this idea has made much headway.—Reuter.

JAPANESE OVERTURE IN PARIS

Paris, To-day.

The desire to develop the existing friendly Franco-Japanese relations, was expressed by the new Ambassador, Mr. Sawada, presenting his credentials to President Lebrun yesterday.

"Le Temps," organ of the French Foreign Office, in a leading article notes with satisfaction the "improvement" in Japanese relations with the Western Powers.

The journal says the talks of the United States, Britain and France with Tokyo are certainly being developed in an atmosphere of real cordiality, in contrast to the reception of Berlin's unsparing advice to Tokyo.

"It does not seem that come what may Ribbentrop has any chance of achieving a diplomatic success in Tokyo to compensate for the rebuffs he has suffered elsewhere."

Referring to Russo-Japanese relations and the suggestion that Russia



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"HITLER SPEAKS"

By Dr. Rauschnig

EAGLE'S EYRIE

For years now, Hitler has spent much of his time at the Obersalzberg, his "home" near Berchtesgaden. Visitors came and went; they came by command, summoned with threats. A new and remarkable political method made its appearance. Germany and the world looked on passively while Hitler threw to the winds all the rules of diplomacy. The ruler of the country stayed on his mountain in remote southern Bavaria; the administrative machine and the foreign diplomats had to make the best of this hindrance to their labours.

The mountain seat grew into a remarkable building, in which boys' dreams or the fantastic ideas of detective story writers found concrete realisation. Bavarians were reminded of their romantic King Ludwig II, with his fairyland castles, his isolation, and his final madness. In a rocky ravine, concealed and shut off from the world, a lift rises several hundred yards. It leads to a glass-walled building, hidden away in the rocky wilderness of the Bavarian mountains, looking across to the Watzmann. Here, high above the world, far beyond reach, the German Fuehrer sits enthroned. It is his eagle's eyrie. Here he looks out to eternity. Here he challenges his neon.

He feels he should never have to leave this place. He ought to give his commands from this solitude, like a god in the clouds. From here, where nobody disturbs him, his glass-walled house in the mountain, his eagle's eyrie. The reports he needs should be sent to him here. He would rule from here.

But need he go on plaguing himself with all this detail? Is it his business to carry on an administration? Let the others see to all that. He must keep himself free for the great decisions. Why must he wage war? He is overcome with weariness. He thinks now fairly frequently of death.

He remembers his "Testament." It provides for everything. He will live on in that, even if he is now to die. The thought of the testament is a relief to him. The things still to be done are contained in it. His young comrades will carry them out. For them the testament will be sacred.

This testament provides for the building up of the Order, the definitive framing of his National Socialist Party Order. It names his successors. He thinks with hatred of Goering. To yield his place to that man. But there is no way out of it. It will not be for long. Goering will not live long.

The testament contains the plan of the Reich, the structure of the new Greater Reich, its Constitution, and the new "Declaration of Rights." This Constitution is to be proclaimed in Versailles, after the victories. It is to be proclaimed with the new perpetual peace, at the end of the war. This testament contains the internal organisation of his Reich, the social statute, and the new economic system. And this testament contains, last and highest of all, the religious revelation, the first tentative sentences of the new Holy Book which he will confer on the world, if he lives.

But he will not live. He feels that he will not. He has been marked down by death. Others will have to complete his work.

He is filled with anguish. The feelings of happiness that were uplifting him only a moment before have gone. Traps are being set for him, ambushes. He hears whispering that stops as he approaches. People look more and more curiously at him. They are discussing him. What can these people want to say about him? They are not joking; they all have a sinister look. These people are up to something.

And his old opponents? Are not these more numerous than ever? Are they not raising their heads again, with impudent daring? Those officers and Junkers, in whose presence he always felt a little uncomfortable, those conceited officials, those unimaginative industrialists.

And the masses? They are beginning to elude him. He notices it. His unfeeling sense is not to be deceived. The people have no determination now; they are weakening. And how is he to wage war now—with this sort of human material?

Suddenly his problems begin to press him; they are beginning to be independent of him. He used himself to be the one to push on; now everything has begun to take charge. He is being carried away. He is only able with difficulty to keep on his feet. And suddenly all the problems are pressing at once! He no longer has any freedom of decision. These deadly problems have acquired a will of their own. They are dragging him the way he does not want to go. Must he now carry out the things he has passionately fought against? Is he not being carried along, step by step, in the opposite direction to the one he meant to take?

Really, has he achieved anything? Will not everything collapse when he is no longer at the head? If only he had introduced his Constitution, if only he had carried his statute into law. Now nothing will go down to posterity. His successors will mutilate and falsify everything, they will trample on his memory and besoul it, just as he did with his predecessors, and his opponents. Nothing of his will remain, except a few buildings as curiosities. The buildings! Perhaps after all he was no more than an architect, and all the rest was just a roundabout way of enabling him to build—him, the stumped candidate for entry into the school of architecture!

Grotesquely devious life's path!

He has really done nothing that has permanence. Everything will be transitory like a confused morning dream. He knows the masses well enough. He has lived among them. He has been too close to them not to despise them for all time. And they will hate and despise him. With all the breathless, panting greed of the stunted, they will take their revenge for having once believed in him and acclaimed him—a man no better than themselves. Just a guttersnipe like themselves. A guttersnipe who pushed himself up by fraud where he had no place. They yelled the loudest in his praise; now they will be the first to stone him. Their women will spit at him. They will shriek for his execution—or would, if he were not already long dead.

Is he not dead already? Is he not just dreaming all this? He grows faint. His life was a feverish dream. He will be called the great culprit. He has achieved nothing, except destruction. The foundation on which he meant to build has suddenly disappeared. It is all a phantasm. Where now is his new Reich? Are not Austria and Czechoslovakia falling away already? Can he stop them? Has he not dug a cleft for all time between the Reich and Austria? Where is the Constitution, the new Gau (regional) structure, by means of which he intended to extirpate the memory of the historic past, of the princes? Where is the Greater German Union, that federalisation under Germany of all Europe? What is becoming of his social system, his army?

Doubts and apprehensions clutch at his throat. He is hoarse again. He feels his pulse. He is afraid. The threads are closing round him. "I do not want to die!" Sweat breaks out on him. He shivers. The prophecy, the last horoscope! He threw that warning to the winds.

The solitude oppresses him. He is in terror of it. Something frightful is closing in on him. He must get into company. He must do something, anything. Anything but think! Find something to do—at once.

He goes to the lift.

THE END

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ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA STARTS

Cairo, To-day.

The start of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca was marked yesterday by the ceremony of the Holy Carpet, which will be laid over the Kaaba, the most holy relic of Moslemdom, in the court-yard of the mosque at Mecca. — Reuter.

CITY OF SINGAPORE AGROUND

New York, To-day.
The Liverpool freighter City of Singapore has radioed stating she has gone aground inside Sandy Hook.—Reuter.

The City of Singapore is a vessel of 6,567 tons and is owned by the Ellerman Lines. She was built in 1923.

New York, Later.
The City of Singapore has been refloated.

She was apparently not seriously damaged.—Reuter.

YOUTH SAVES HIS COMRADES

London, To-day.

Six survivors of the torpedoed British ship Arlington Court were saved through the skill of an 18-year old boy, it was learned in London yesterday.

He and six others got into a water-logged lifeboat and he was the only one who knew how to navigate her. He kept at the boat's tiller for six days, steering her by means of a small compass until he brought them into a busy shipping lane where they were picked up by a passing ship.—Reuter.



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PUBLIC HEALTH IN HONG KONG

In Hong Kong there are 130 funerals every day. This is stated, not to promote a morbid train of thought, but to invite a personal interest in the greatest single problem of this Colony—Public Health—and especially to beg you to consider whether you cannot make a personal contribution towards remedying a state of affairs which can only be described as unsatisfactory.

You may be tempted to dismiss the problem as not your business, but as the inevitable accompaniment of poverty, ignorance and the bad living habits of people with whom you do not associate. But a high death-rate is everybody's business. Apart from compassion and public spirit, the problem does affect you personally, for infection is no respecter of persons, and your own life would be happier, and less expensive to maintain, if the menaces to health could be reduced. Most people have come at some time face to face with the tragedy of disease—relatives or friends unaccountably stricken and their lives brought to a premature end. There is no escape from communal responsibility: or, if there is, self-preservation insists upon our concerning ourselves.

Of the diseases which take toll of the Hong Kong population, the most damaging is Tuberculosis. This also is probably the most frequent agent of tragedy. In order to demonstrate how serious the menace is, it is desirable to give a few figures. During the years 1936, 1937 and 1938, deaths in Hong Kong attributed to the disease totalled respectively 2,416, 4,028 and 4,920.

In the same period, the proportion of deaths from Tuberculosis to every thousand deaths from all causes has risen from 92 in 1936 to 127 in 1938. The statistics so far available for the current year show an even higher rate.

Now, what can we do about this? First, let us consider the causes of Tuberculosis.

First and foremost comes malnutrition. In the main, this is due to poverty resulting from low wages from a flooded labour market and to incapacity from ill-health due to under and improper feeding—a vicious circle thus being created. But, you may say, quite a number of wealthy people who are well fed become infected. True. But it is necessary to realise that malnutrition does not always mean inadequacy of food. Physical weakness also results from eating the wrong foods—through ignorance of more nutritious kinds of food, or through prejudice, as in the case of the unwillingness of urban communities to eat unpolished rice, which would protect against beri beri. Lack of sleep also reduces the resistance: it has a greater effect on health than people realise. Much mischief is also caused by over indulgence in strenuous games.

After malnutrition, which lowers the individual resistance to Tuberculosis and prepares the soil, as it were, for infection, comes contact with actual cases of the disease.

Here, it should be made clear that the bulk of the cases of Tuberculosis met with in Hong Kong are due to what is called the human strain of the germ. Tuberculosis in cattle is uncommon in Hong Kong, and the law relating to compulsory pasteurisation, which came into force on the 1st April, 1939, serves as a safeguard against such milk-borne infection.

Contact with what is described as an "open" case of Tuberculosis, or one who is coughing or spitting up Tubercle germs, is the usual way in which the disease is acquired.

Such contact may occur in several ways. Owing to serious overcrowding, due in some measure to relatively high rents, a healthy person may have to share a cubicle or even a bed or bed space on the floor or pavement with a victim of the disease. In such circumstances, the air, containing droplets of spit, in which Tubercle germs are to be found, is breathed by the relatives or close neighbours of the patient and passes down into the lungs. If such persons have become weakened by inadequate food or other causes,

the Tubercle germ settles down and the mischief begins.

Bad habits, such as spitting on floor or pavement, increase this danger especially where houses are damp, dark and dirty. The custom of using a common bowl or of shaving eating and drinking utensils can spread infection. The Chinese family meal custom may have much to answer for. Tragedy may follow the kissing of babies by persons infected with Tuberculosis.

What can we do? Let us recapitulate the cause:

- (1) malnutrition;
- (2) dirty, damp, sunless and airless surroundings;
- (3) bad housing, overcrowding and lack of adequate ventilation;
- (4) bad habits (e.g. spitting in public places, vehicles, etc.);
- (5) failure to recognise, isolate and treat cases of the disease in time.

And now what about the prevention and cure? The traditional arguments are that malnutrition is largely an economic problem. Overcrowding is so large and difficult a question that to begin here and neglect other measures would produce very slow results. To attempt to compel quick reform by legislation would probably be resisted and resisted. Compulsory isolation in sanatoria would not appeal—even if sanatoria were available. But, pending some of these measures and provisions, there is much that can be done at once. Here is where you can help:

(1) Ventilate your houses and let the sun in. Even the broken pane can be a blessing in disguise.

(2) Avoid close contact with infected people. In the home, adopt the individual dish, basin, spoon, etc. Forbid the kissing of children by infected persons.

(3) Eat nourishing food.

(4) Get plenty of sleep and enough daily exercise.

(5) At sport never permit yourself to become exhausted.

(6) Do not spit except into latrines, drains or spittoons. Encourage others to follow your example in this. To hurt their feelings a little is better than letting them infect others.

(7) Encourage early detection, isolation and treatment of cases of Tuberculosis, especially of adults.

The Tubercle germ is a treacherous enemy: it lurks in damp, dark and dirty places; consequently, it follows that there is much less chance of its surviving and causing further havoc if every effort is made to keep rooms flushed with sun, fresh air and soap and water—all of which constitute relatively cheap means of protection in the hands of every person.

If to these steps is added an adequate amount of simple, nourishing food, together with sufficient sleep, daily exercise, regular habits and avoidance of undue fatigue or exposure, the battle against Tuberculosis will be more than half won.

Those with knowledge of the constituents of balanced dietaries can help by making this known to all in their circle of acquaintance—teachers to scholars, and so on.

Everyone can contribute his share by discouraging by example and precept—spitting in public places, on pavements, in vehicles and, in fact, anywhere except in latrines, drains or spittoons containing disinfectant.

Those who know of cases of disease—indicated by cough, night-sweats or fever, loss of weight, paleness of lips, lack of energy—can also help by persuading such persons to go to a qualified doctor or to a dispensary or hospital for advice and, if necessary, treatment.

If such patients are treated at home, relatives can help by seeing that every endeavour is made to provide room, or cubicle, or at least bed isolation, with separate eating and drinking utensils and strict attention to cleanliness, use of spittoons, and so on.

Only by the active help and co-operation of every right-thinking person can any progress be made in the fight against the Tuberculosis peril in Hong Kong.

WHERE IS GEN. GOERING?

GRAF SPEE ACTION PROMOTIONS

London, To-day.
An Admiralty communique announces, in recognition of services in action against the Nazi pocket-battleship Admiral Graf Spee, the following promotions, to date from December 13:
Commander D. H. Everett, H.M.S. Ajax, to Captain;
Lt.-Comm. R. B. Jennings and Lt.-Comm. C. J. Smith, H.M.S. Exeter, and Lt.-Comm. P. T. A. Love, H.M.S. Achilles, to be Commanders.—Reuter.

FRANCE'S NEW BUDGET APPROVED

PARIS, TO-DAY.

FRANCE'S FIRST CIVIL BUDGET SINCE THE WAR WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE YESTERDAY. IT TOTALLED 79,000 MILLION FRANCS, EXCEEDING LAST YEAR'S BUDGET BY 16,000 MILLION FRANCS.

M. Reynaud, Minister of Finance, spoke about France's budgetary policy for the duration of the war. Civil expenditure, he said, will be met by taxation. Increased military expenditure must be met by loans.

The Franco-British financial agreement, he said, had made it much easier to get the foreign exchange required for war purposes.

He also stressed that aid was now being given to Finland, while a Polish Army was being maintained.—Reuter.

FINANCIAL POSITION
STRONGER THAN IN 1914
(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

The Senate unanimously voted on the ordinary budget estimates for the 1940-41 fiscal year, providing for a total revenue of 79,247 million francs and total expenditure of 78,889 million francs. It was stated that the total expenditure, including the extraordinary war budget, may reach 300 billion francs next year.

M. Gardey pointed out that France's financial position at present was much stronger than in 1914. He added that however effective taxation may be, a loan will constitute the main source of war financing.—Havas.

RUSSO-JAPANESE NEGOTIATIONS

Moscow, To-day.

Foreign Commissar Molotov and Mr. Togo, Japanese Ambassador at Large, held a meeting on Wednesday night, discussing for four hours the trade and fishery convention which expires on Sunday. It is not known what progress was made.—Reuter.

POLISH RELIEF FUND IN RANGOON

Rangoon, To-day.

The Governor of Burma is the patron of a Polish Relief Fund which

Amsterdam, To-day.
"WHAT HAS HAPPENED to Goering?" is the question people are asking in Germany, according to reports reaching here.

The Field-Marshal has been almost ostentatiously absent from all the Christmas festivals.

It is recalled that Hitler and General von Brauchitsch visited the front, Rudolf Hess and Joseph Goebbels made speeches and all the other Nazi leaders made public appearances, but Goering stayed quietly at Schorfheide, his country home.

He did not even appear at the Christmas party for poor children in Berlin, but gifts were distributed on his behalf by the obscure mayor of one of the districts of the capital.

Some people in Berlin suggest Goering is deliberately keeping himself in the background until some definite issue emerges from the present argument about policy.

It is stated here that violent discussions are raging between Nazi Party and Army about the future conduct of the war and German-Soviet relations.

IN DISGRACE?

These persons argue that Goering decided to hold himself aloof until he sees the way more clearly.

Rival theorists declare that Goering has already quarrelled with Hitler and is temporarily in disgrace; he is accordingly remaining behind the scenes until the trouble has blown over.

Whatever the reason, the failure of the Field-Marshal to participate in the wartime Christmas is considered very strange in Germany.—Reuter.

R.A.F. VISIT NORTH GERMANY

LONDON, TO-DAY.

THE AIR MINISTRY ANNOUNCES THAT THE R.A.F. HAS CARRIED OUT A SUCCESSFUL RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHT OVER NORTH-WEST GERMANY; ONE PLANE DID NOT RETURN.

Other air activity included an attack on German ships, when, despite fierce anti-aircraft fire, one bomb at least was seen to hit the stern of one vessel.

In two cases elsewhere, three Dornier flying-boats were put to rout; there were no British casualties.—Reuter.

S. AFRICA'S GIFT

London, To-day.

The British Empire Service League of South Africa has sent the War Secretary a cheque signed by Field-Marshal Lord Milne for £400, representing contributions from four thousand ex-Service men and women towards Christmas comforts for British troops in the front line, "with best wishes from their comrades in South Africa."

The gift has been acknowledged by Mr. Hore-Bellisha.—British Wireless.

has been opened in Rangoon. The Mayor of Rangoon is chairman of the fund, with the Hon. Somerset Butler, Polish Consul, as vice-chairman.—Reuter.

PRISONER OF LUXEMBURG ESCAPES

London, To-day.

An Air Ministry statement says: "It was announced by a German broadcasting station yesterday that the officer of the R.A.F. who was interned in Luxemburg and had given his word of honour not to try to escape, eluded his guard and got away."

The statement that this officer escaped is correct but the statement that he was on parole at the time of his escape is entirely untrue.—British Wireless.

IMPERIAL EXCHEQUER TO PAY

Nairobi, To-day.

An official statement reveals that with certain exceptions wartime military expenditure in the East African territories will be met from Imperial funds.

The governments will be asked to pay only 25 per cent. a year above their peacetime military expenditure.—Reuter.

WHAT WAR COSTS BELGIUM

Brussels, To-day.

The expense of keeping Belgium's troops mobilised was stressed by the Premier, M. Pierlot, speaking in the Senate yesterday.

M. Pierlot declared the Government could not accept any amendments to the financial proposals already adopted by the Chamber, which would have the effect of reducing revenue from the new taxes contained therein.

"I am very much afraid that as the result of the internecine struggle between her neighbours Belgium is losing her capital even if she is not called upon to give her blood."

"There are some people who show indifference when they are faced with danger, or who appear to ignore it completely."

BELGIAN SACRIFICES

"Keeping the troops continually in a state of mobilisation is an expensive matter, and the cost ought to be met by an internal loan, for money borrowed abroad would be too dear, especially in view of present conditions."

"The sacrifices every Belgian is called upon to make are enormous, but the safety of our country demands them."—Reuter.

SOVIET'S DEMANDS OF BULGARIA

Helsinki, To-day.

It is reported that during the Soviet-Bulgarian trade negotiations the Russians asked for military advantages and rights, coupled with Black Sea naval bases, in return for economic concessions to Bulgaria.—Reuter.

MARTELL'S BRANDIES

V.S.O.P

CORDON ARGENT

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NAZI BITTERNESS

Fancy Plays On Allied Policy Towards Neutrals

NAZI RAID ON WOOD IN VOSGES

Paris, To-day.
There has been considerable patrol activity on the Western Front by both sides.

One Nazi raid against a small wood in the Vosges resulted in some sharp hand-to-hand fighting, while another in the Saar region was easily repulsed.

French patrols were active east of the Moselle.—Reuter.

U.S. AIR ARM

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Washington, To-day.

The annual report of the War Secretary, Mr. Woodring, emphasised the necessity for the United States to have a powerful Air Force.

To under-estimate the value of a strong air arm "might mean the extinction of a nation's existence," he said and added that in the fiscal year 1939-40 only 23 per cent. of the war expenditure was devoted to the Air Force. — Havas.

WAR TO KNIFE DECREED

Stockholm, To-day.

THE BELIEF EXISTS in Berlin that Britain and France are now endeavouring to force Sweden and Turkey to abandon their neutrality, according to the Berlin correspondent of the "Dagbladet."

The Germans, he says, think that a violent anti-Soviet campaign may induce Turkey to enter the war on the side of the Allies, while the question of assistance to Finland is intended to serve the same purpose in the case of Sweden.

The Berlin newspaper "Nachtausgabe" declares that Britain's aim is to secure the Swedish ore, and warns neutrals against supporting the latest anti-Russian tendencies.

TIME FOR WEAPONS

The Berlin correspondent of the "Nyheter" states that it is now emphasised in official circles in Berlin that "Britain's war" can only be decided by fighting until Germany wins.

The Pope's Christmas address has created no impression on Germans, who state the time has now arrived for weapons to speak.

The correspondent adds it is believed in Berlin that Britain and France intend to sharpen the blockade and that this will necessitate increased pressure against neutrals.

NAZI WARNING

The Wilhelmstrasse considers that Britain and France are incapable of carrying on alone, and therefore they are seeking to excite neutrals against Germany.

The Nazis have issued a warning that "those not against us are safe and those adhering to Britain and France are Germany's enemies and will be treated accordingly." — Reuter.

DAMNING EVIDENCE OF U-BOAT ACTIVITIES

LONDON, TO-DAY.

EVIDENCE OF THE DEFINITE USE OF NEUTRAL TERRITORIAL WATERS FOR PREYING UPON SHIPPING, IN DEFIANCE OF ALL PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, IS CONTAINED IN THE TESTIMONY OF SURVIVORS FROM THE BRITISH STEAMER DEPTFORD, ONE OF THREE SHIPS TORPEDOED IN NEUTRAL WATERS.

Such a case might arise in bad weather if the ship attacked was close to the outer edge of the three-mile limit.

In the case of the torpedoing of the Deptford, the U-boat could not possibly plead a navigational mistake. Visibility was excellent and the Deptford was less than half a mile from the high coast line.

Even more damning is the statement of the captain of the Farida, who said he saw the conning tower of the submarine break surface, and she was between the Deptford and the land.

The Norwegian coast in that neighbourhood is deeply indented and has deep water right up to the shore.

IDEAL PLACE

It was an ideal place for a submarine—careless of the legality of its proceedings—to lie under the land awaiting her chance, and there is little doubt these were the tactics adopted by the U-boat concerned in the torpedoing of the Deptford.

It was only two days before that the Greek steamer Garoufalia had been torpedoed without warning in Norwegian territorial waters, while four days before that the British Thomas Walton had been torpedoed without warning off Narvik, when well inside neutral territorial waters. —British Wireless.

RATIONING MOTIVES IN BRITAIN

LONDON, TO-DAY.

FOOD RATIONING, WHICH SO FAR HAS ONLY APPLIED TO BUTTER AND BACON,—THE SCHEMES FOR WHICH COME INTO OPERATION ON JANUARY 8, IN THE FIFTH MONTH OF WAR — IS TO BE EXTENDED TO SUGAR AND MEAT.

The Government's decision was announced yesterday.

The amount of the meat ration and the date will be announced later.

In a statement issued by the Ministry of Food it is pointed out that for foodstuffs now to be rationed Britain is dependent to a large extent on overseas sources of supply.

The amounts of rations are based on the present import programme which are determined in the light of available resources in foreign exchange and shipping space.

RESTRICTED SHIPMENTS

Requirements of other imported commodities, especially armaments and raw materials, make large extra demands on these resources.

By restricting the demand for imported foodstuffs these resources are made free for the needs of the defence services.

In this way, it is expected, every consumer will make an important contribution to the national war effort. — British Wireless.

1939




1940

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—*—

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News Snack Bar

HUNTED SUBMARINE DEFIES FLEETS: EAGLE JOINS BRITISH NAVY

London, December 8.

NOW SERVING with the British Navy are two Polish submarines, the Orzel (Eagle, in English) and the Wilk, which slipped out of the Baltic while German and Russian warships were hunting them. The Wilk reached England without incident.

The Eagle's escape is described by General Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister, as "one of the epic deeds of our time." Judge for yourself . . .

Soon after the Germans invaded Poland the Eagle put out from Gdynia, her base, to avoid being "bottled up" by Nazi warships.

Then her troubles began. First her commander fell ill. Then she had engine trouble. The Eagle put into Tallinn, port of neutral Estonia.

The commander was taken to hospital. The submarine was interned. All her maps and charts were taken away. The crew were exhausted after a fight of several days to keep the damaged motors going. There was little food on board.

It seemed that the wings of the Eagle were effectively clipped. But one man, First Officer Grudzinski, aged 24, saw a hope of escape.

GUARDS OVERPOWERED

Four hours after the submarine

marine and in a few minutes the Eagle was moving out to sea.

Coast artillery opened fire. Estonian warships shelled her. She dived without being hit, and eluded them all.

At midnight, three days later, the captured guards were put into a dinghy near the Swedish coast.

Now the hunt for the Eagle was on in earnest. Both the Nazis and the Russians were keen to catch her, for she was the pride of the Polish submarine service.

As her maps and charts had been taken the task seemed easy. All that young Grudzinski had to guide him was a book with listed navigating lights in the Baltic. But he was determined to get to England and to fight with the British Navy.

By day the Eagle dare not surface. Planes as well as warships were seeking her. The submarine turned and doubled on her tracks like a hare.

Then the food began to give out. By this time the Eagle was in the Skagerrak and a new danger faced her.

GOULD NOT SUBMERGE

The channel she was following was too shallow to allow her to dive, so for most of the time she had to keep only half-submerged.

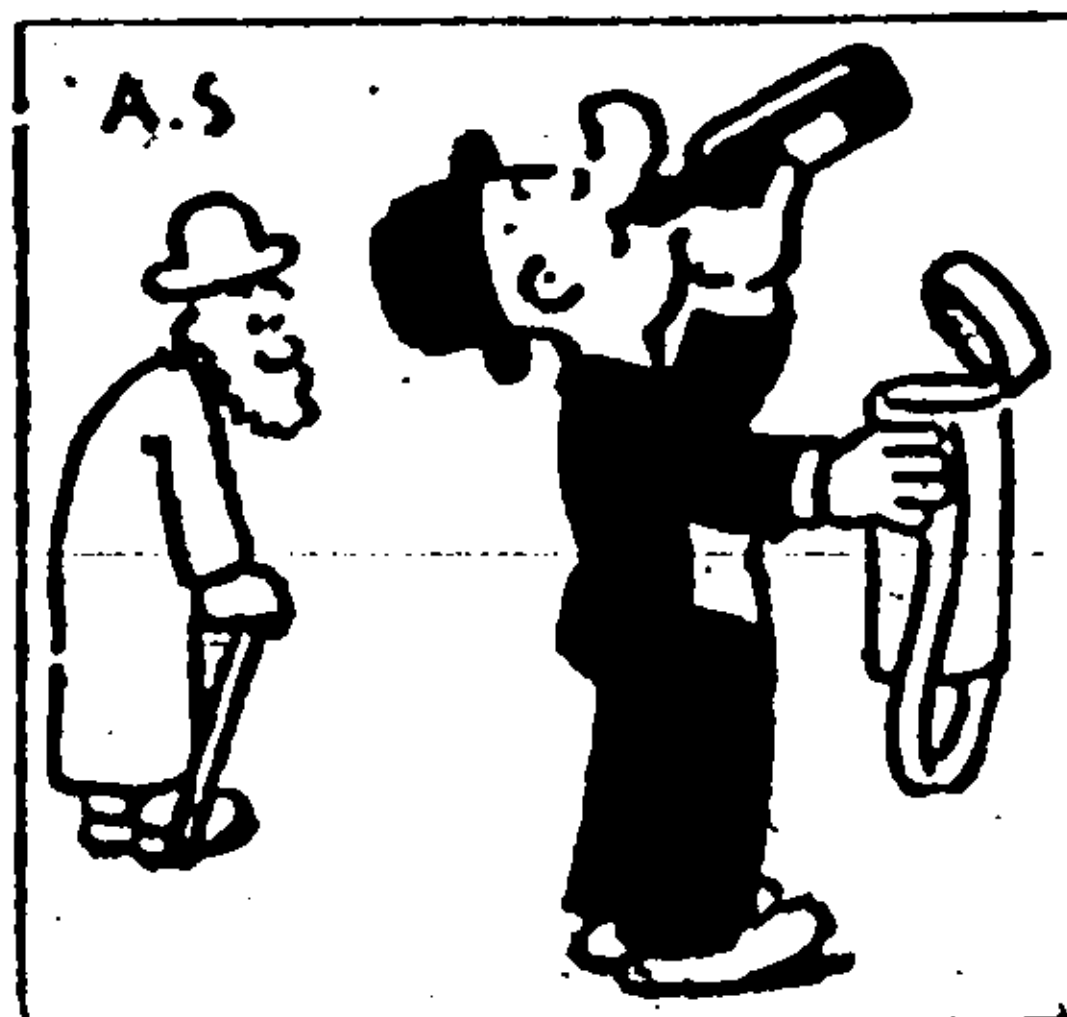
Then one night three German destroyers loomed up out of the darkness.

First Officer Grudzinski took a chance. He stopped the Eagle. Near the point where she lay a rock is charted.

The German vessels, if they sighted her, must have mistaken the submarine for this rock. They passed and disappeared.

It was three weeks after leaving Gdynia that the Eagle put into a British port.

General Sikorski has decorated her young First Officer and every man of her crew.



"Ah! That's why he'll never go about without his mask-box."—
"L'Oeuvre," Paris.

had been interned the crew had the motors in order again.

The temporary telephone line connecting the submarine with guard headquarters was cut.

Suddenly the men of the Eagle attacked the guards. There was shooting. Those guards who were not put out of action were seized, bound, and bundled into the sub-



At the Christmas Party given at the Royal Naval Hospital on Monday.

Government Will Pay

It is announced that men on service with the Forces, summoned to attend courts in connection with their civil liabilities will in future be given conveyance at the public expense.

Cattle Ban

The existence of foot and mouth disease has been confirmed among cattle at Thorganby, Lincs.

A Ministry of Agriculture order prohibits the movement—except by licence—of all cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and deer within approximately fifteen miles of the infected premises.

Samson—Aged 103

Jerry O'Keefe, an Irish Samson who believed that his strength resided in his long hair, has died in hospital at Condobolin, New South Wales, at the age of 103. Jerry's long hair was red, and came down to his shoulders and beyond. He let the barber trim it very slightly once a year.

Hated Modern Girls

Dr. Leonard Williams, former Harley-street specialist and outspoken medical writer, bitter opponent of the modern sports girl and her teachers, has died at the age of seventy-seven.

In a speech at Margate a few years ago Dr. Williams caused a sensation when he attacked school games taught by "embittered, sexless hoydens" who make gentle and feminine schoolgirls harsh and bellicose.

Of neglectful mothers he said: "When hens are kept without manganese they lose all maternal instinct. It might be a good thing to try the effect of manganese on some human mothers to see if it would induce them to forsake the cocktail bar and the bridge table for the nursery."

This Freedom

Germans who accept the invitation of Bradford-born Herr Bohle, head of the Organisation of Germans Abroad, to return to the Third Reich, are first "acclimatised" in special "Homes for Returned Wanderers."

Since January, 1937, over 70,000 Germans have gone back to take up residence in the Reich, the majority of them from Holland, the United States, and Brazil.

Since January, 1938, over 2,000 have gone back from Britain, the rate sharply increasing since last September.

In the special homes they receive a course of the "New Germany," have physical training, and can relax in almost luxurious surroundings.

We say: We have a system something like this in Britain. Prisoners facing a long term of penal servitude are at times "broken in" first in one of the more comfortable prisons.

Bad For The

Art Thieves

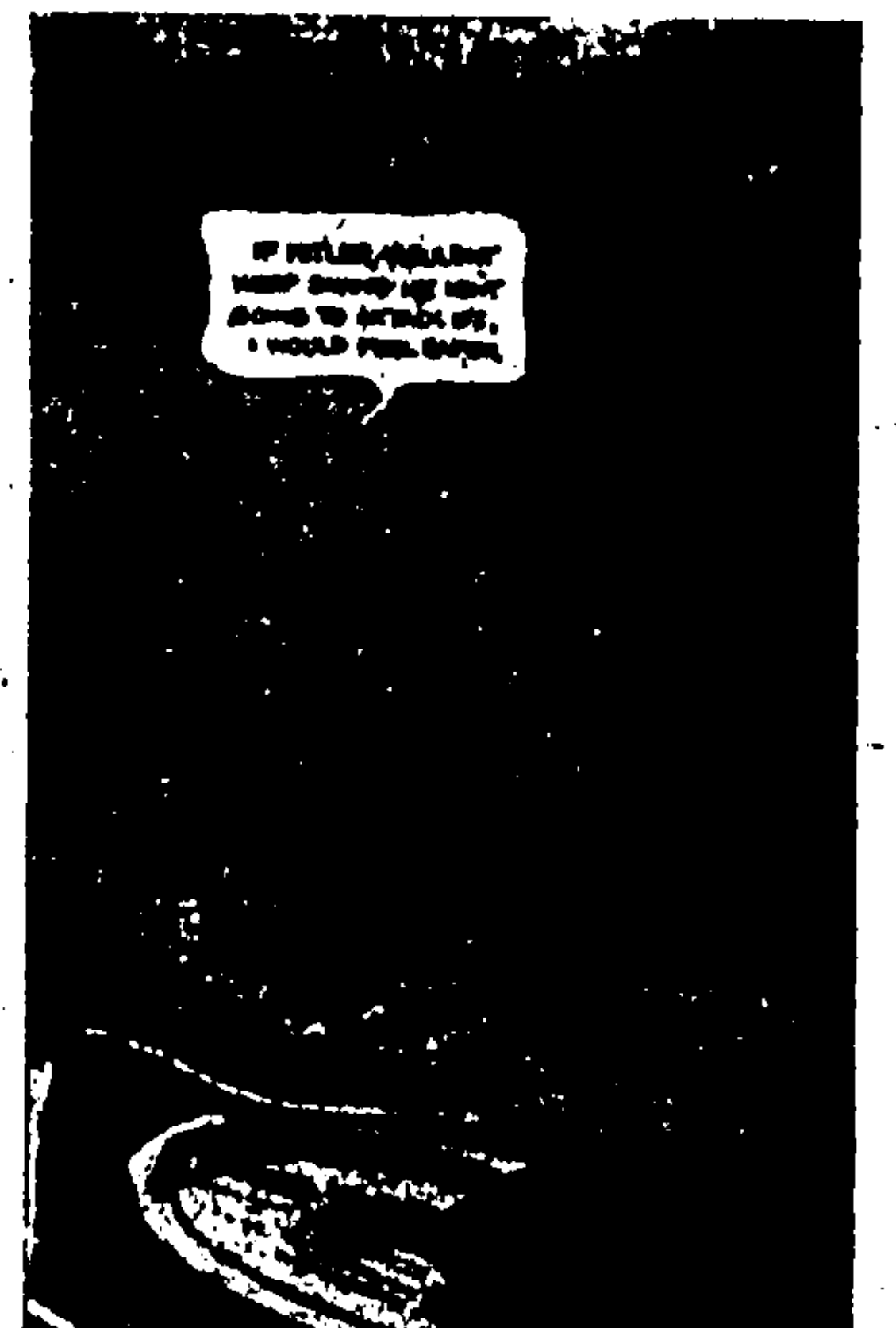
Following the return of the "borrowed" Watteau masterpiece "L'Indifferent," which had been missing from the Louvre for two months, work is to be begun on the installation in the galleries of an electrical system of alarms.

Owing to its size and rambling construction, the Louvre has always found safeguarding its treasures difficult. London's National Gallery is believed to be the most completely protected building of its kind.

Germany Listen's—In

There are now 11,420,000 wireless sets in Germany—excluding Austria and the Sudetenland—an increase of about 7,000,000 since 1933, when Herr Hitler assumed power. Approximately 8,000,000 of them are capable of receiving foreign broadcasts.

Britain has 8,587,790 wireless sets for a population of about thirty million, fewer people than Germany.



"These nervous neutrals."—
"Daily News," Chicago.

In Memory —

Name Wrong

Walsall civic bigwigs are hanging their heads in shame.

Yesterday they unveiled a tablet to the late Alderman J. A. Leckie, public figure there for twenty-one years and M. P. for seven years—and they got the name wrong!

When the cover was removed from the tablet the name "John Alexander Leckie" was revealed. Mr. Leckie wasn't John Alexander, but Joseph Alexander. But the show went on.

They are going to have the tablet recast and the new one will be erected in about two weeks.



Picture taken prior to the start of the Christmas party at the Royal Naval Hospital on Monday.

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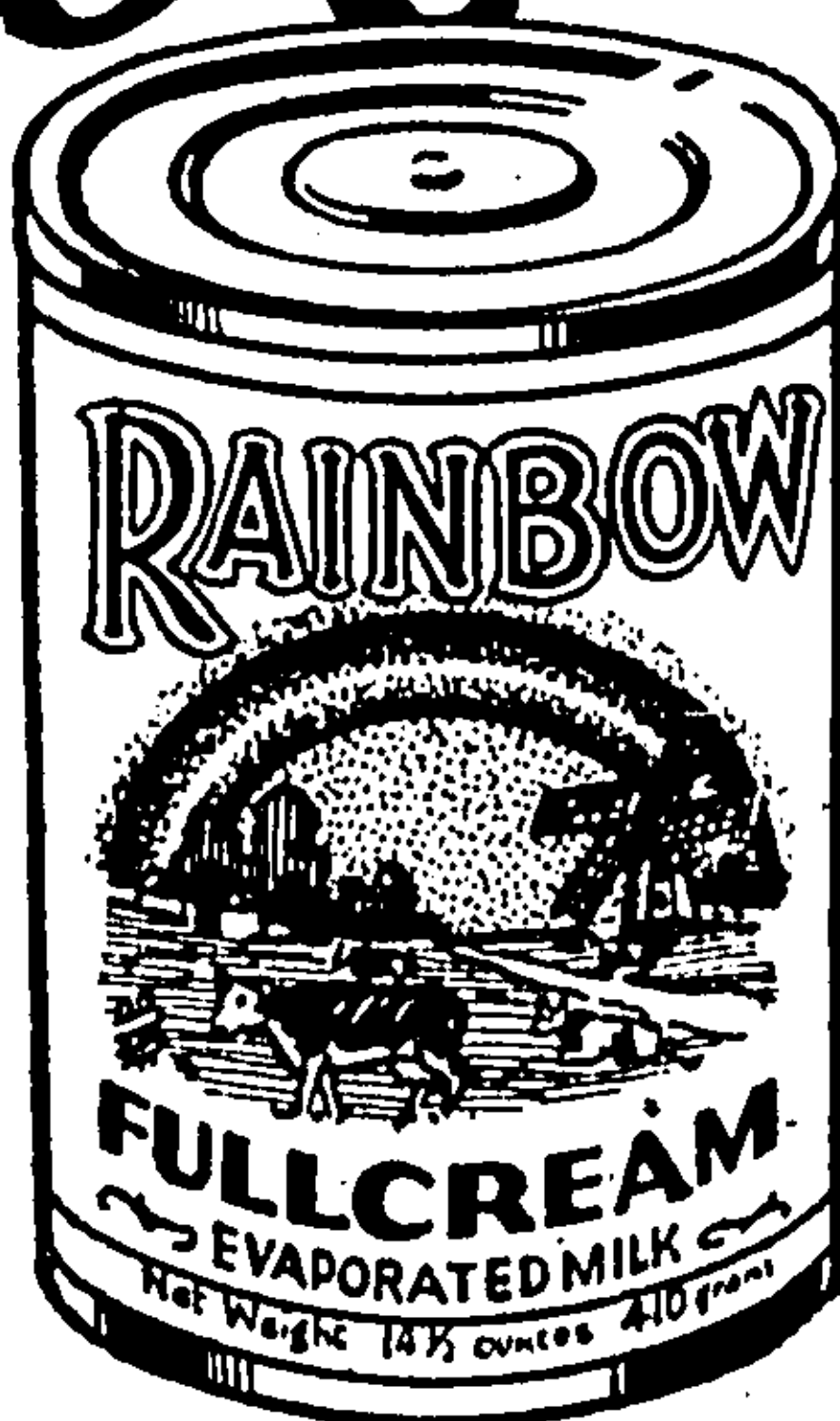
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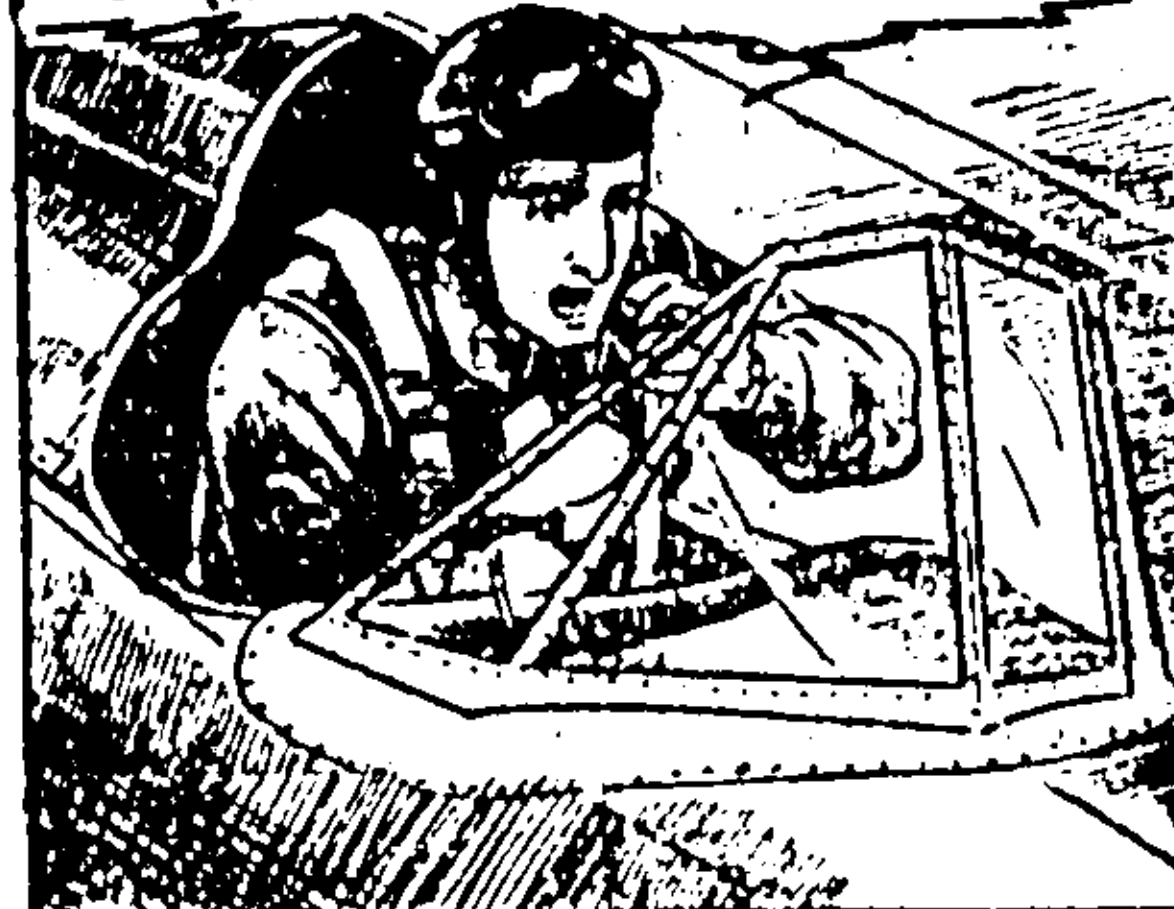
YOUR MILKMAN AT ANY TIME

QUALITY-NOURISHMENT

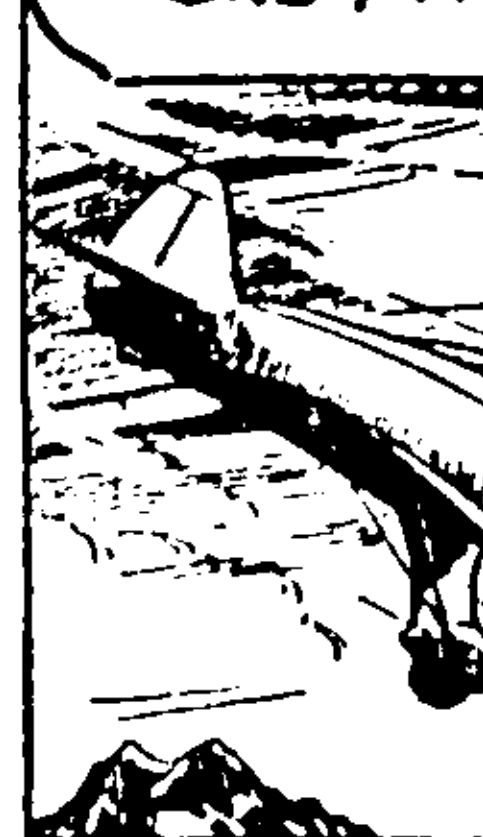
THE SENTINEL AT "THE VULTURE'S" HIDEAWAY IS AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF AN INTRUDER WITHOUT A MOMENT'S DELAY HE HASTENS TO WARN THE BANDITS HE RETURNS TO LOOK FOR TOMMY WHO HAS HIDDEN HIMSELF IN A THICKET TO WAIT FOR SKEETER'S RETURN WITH AID. MEANWHILE ---

3469

I'LL WARN THREE-POINT BY RADIO! CALLING THREE POINT SHEETER CALLING! TOMMY IS IN DANGER! WE HAVE DISCOVERED THE HIDEAWAY OF THE VULTURE



REPEAT MESSAGE THAT'S RIGHT FOR THE FIGHT ONE, TWO



AT OCEAN CITY, NAVAL AIRPORT, A FLEET OF POWERFUL BOMBING PLANES TAKES TO THE AIR, IN OBEDIENCE TO A COMMAND FROM HEADQUARTERS

3470



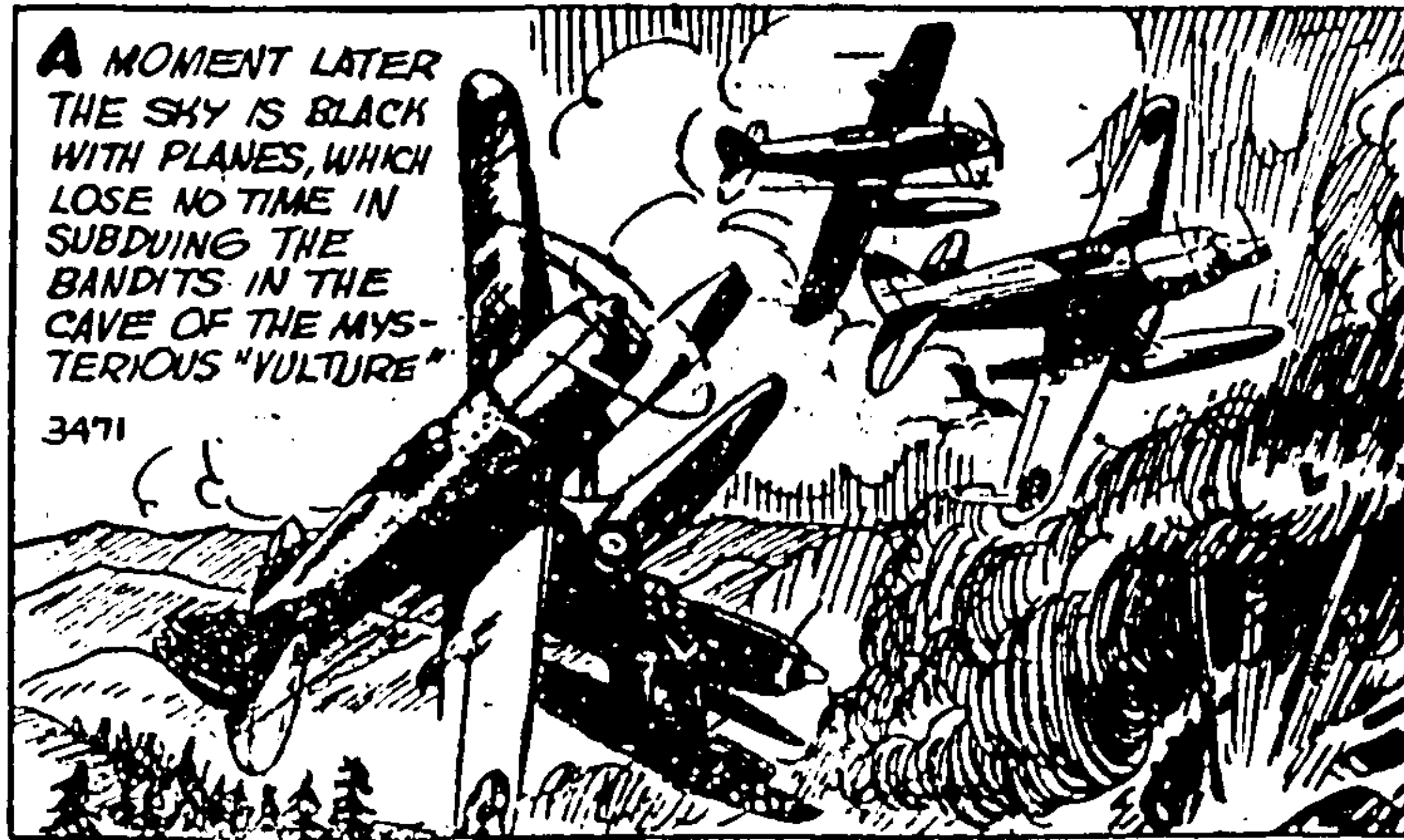
WE MUST GET THERE IN TIME. IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH!

SKEETER'S GUN-FIRE MOMENTARILY DISTRACTS THE BANDITS



A MOMENT LATER THE SKY IS BLACK WITH PLANES, WHICH LOSE NO TIME IN SUBDUING THE BANDITS IN THE CAVE OF THE MYSTERIOUS "VULTURE"

3471

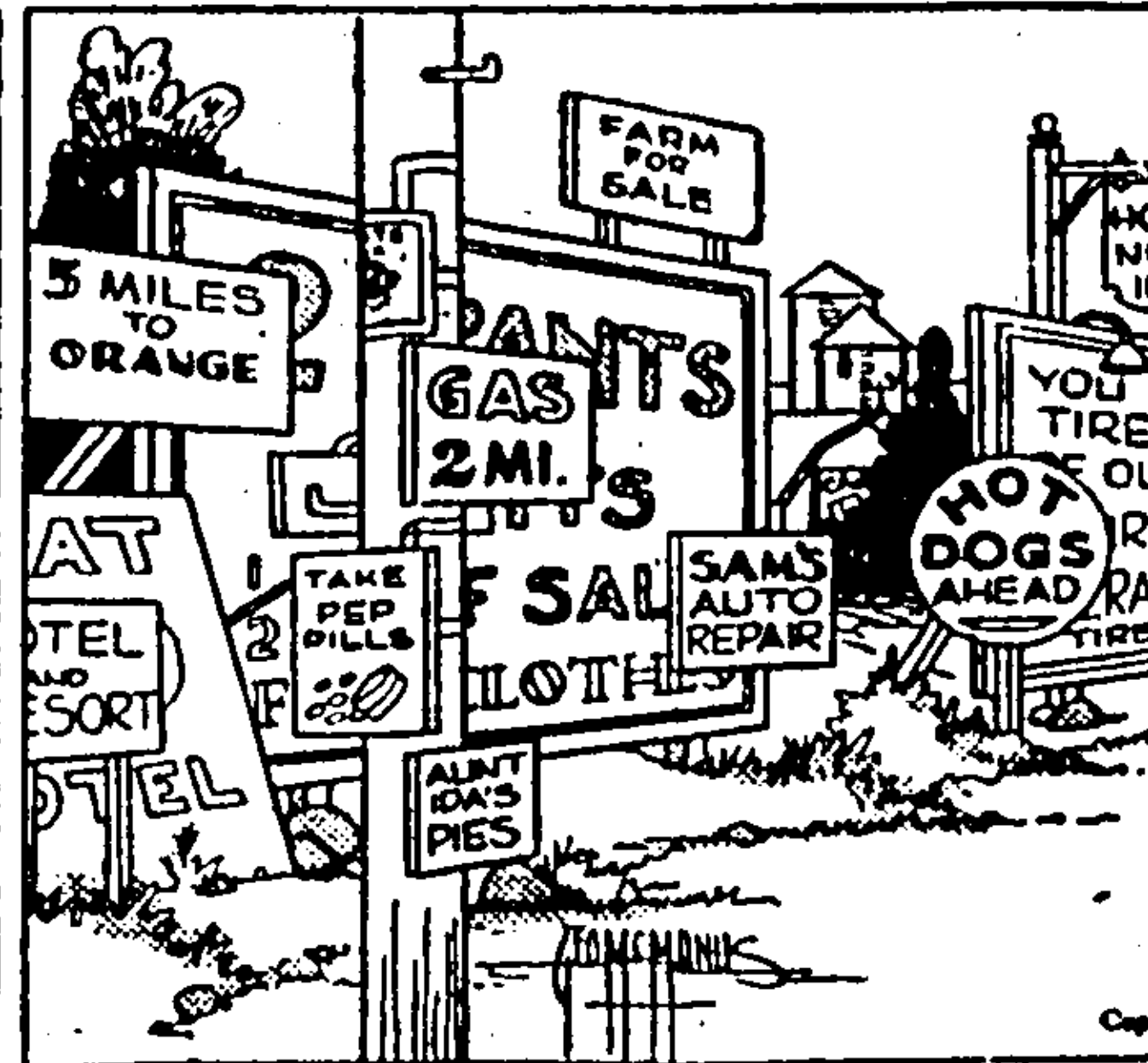


Bringing Up Father



OH-I'M GOING TO ENJOY THIS TRIP THROUGH KANSAS- THE SCENERY IS SO BEAUTIFUL- THE FIELDS OF CORN AND GRASS- LET'S GET GOING-

I'M ALL SET- DAUGHTER AND LORD WORTHNOTTEN ARE ALREADY IN THE CAR--



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By HAL FORREST

EG, NOW.

AT THREE-POINT

IT'S AMAZING! LET US NOTIFY THE AUTHORITIES RIGHT AWAY!

IN THE MEANTIME TOMMY AWAITS THE SENTINEL'S ATTACK, PREPARED TO FIGHT SAVAGELY FOR HIS LIFE ---

SKEETER LANDS TO FIND TOMMY SURROUNDED BY ENEMIES, POSTING HIMSELF BEHIND A TREE HE RAKES THEM WITH FIRE

THE PROVIDENTIAL AID OF SKEETER GIVES TOMMY A RAY OF HOPE AS HE VAINTLY FIGHTS THE BANDITS ON ALL SIDES..

SURROUNDED BY SOLDIERS, THE "VULTURE" BEGS FOR MERCY. THE CRIMINAL WHO HAD PUT THE SECURITY OF A NATION IN DANGER, TURNS OUT TO BE SNEAD WHO IS AT LAST MADE TO PAY FOR HIS WRONG DOINGS

TOMMY, PROMISE ME THAT YOU WILL GIVE UP THIS DANGEROUS ADVENTURING!

THAT'S THE FINISH!

AND BETTY

THE END

By George McManus

WE MUST BE WITHIN SEVENTY HOT DOG SIGNS OF TH' NEXT TOWN-LET'S STOP-I THINK I CAN SEE SOME GRASS UNDER THAT BIG BILL BOARD.

BAR-B-QUE

300 YARD TO CLUCKEN FOR SALE

DRINK WO WO! WELL BRED BREAD

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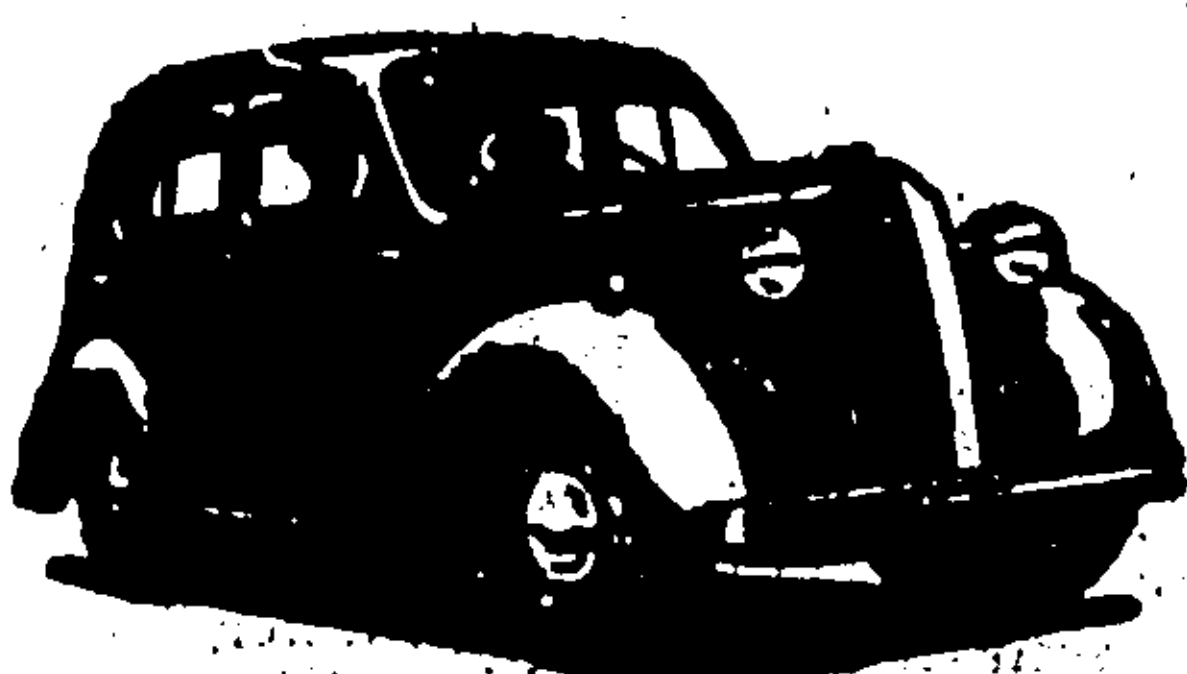
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PURE FOOD SPECIALISTS.

Potted-Best-seller Serial: First day THE HOPKINS MANUSCRIPT

By R. C. SHERRIFF

Author Of "Journey's End"

A story telling how the moon hit the earth—written by one of the last Englishmen left alive . . .

FOREWORD

(From the Imperial Research Press, Addis Ababa)

THE Royal Society of Abyssinia discovered "The Hopkins Manuscript" two years ago in the ruins of Notting Hill.

It is the only personal day-by-day record yet discovered that gives us the intimate feelings of an Englishman during the days of the Cataclysm.

Our ignorance concerning the history of England is tantalising, but it should be remembered that for a hundred years after the collapse of the "Western Civilisation" the peoples of the East destroyed everything that existed in their own countries to remind them of the days when they lived in servitude to the "white man."

Every printed book, every vestige of art surviving from Western Europe, was systematically hunted out and destroyed. The damp climate of England completed this work of destruction in the seven hundred years that followed.

The mainland of Western Europe, once inhabited by the French, Germans, Italians, and Spaniards, has long since been colonised, and every vestige of its past civilisation swept away.

But the damp British climate has not attracted the peoples of the East for nearly a thousand years, since its last wretched inhabitants starved to death amid the ruins of their once noble cities.

The English recorded their lives and achievements upon paper so flimsy that every vestige has perished in the perpetual dampness of the island, and their inscriptions upon metal and stone are of the poorest quality.

An extremely rusted iron tablet was found twelve miles south-west of London. Its inscription has been deciphered by Dr. Shangul, of Aduwa University, as "KEEP OFF THE GRASS," and it is now lodged in the Royal Collection at Addis Ababa.

The rectangular column of stone inscribed "PECKHAM 3 MILES" can be seen in the Imperial Museum of Afghanistan.

The only other inscription found in England raised great hopes, but it proved to be the greatest disappointment of all. The tablet, which commemorates the opening of a swimming bath in North London, records in detail the names of the borough council, the architect and the sanitary engineer, and omits the name of the ruling monarch and Prime Minister.

"The Hopkins Manuscript" was discovered by an expedition of the Royal Society of Abyssinia. While cutting brushwood for the fires lit by the expedition every night to protect themselves against the packs of wild dogs that roam the island, a young scientist discovered a much decayed wall of red brick that collapsed under pressure, revealing in a recess a small vacuum flask.

The manuscript within it had survived where millions of books, exposed to the climate, had perished.

And so "The Hopkins Manuscript" comes to us—a thin, lonely cry of anguish from the gathering darkness of a dying England. It raises the shadows from the dead limbs of a once powerful

ful nation as the glow of a match might dispel the darkness from the desert of Sahara. Yet it is all that we have.

The Manuscript

I am writing by the light of a piece of string which I have pushed through a fragment of bacon fat and arranged in an egg-cup. I shall write by night, partly because I can no longer sleep through these ghastly, moonless chasms and partly because by day I must search for food, and the days are short.

It is hard to believe that this is Notting Hill, and the inky, silent void beneath me is London. There was a time when I could see a million lights from this window. There was a time when the roar of the traffic would come up to this window like a lulling sea beneath a dying storm.

Earlier this evening I saw a few fitful little yellow lights beneath me—flickering and disappearing as people in their ruined houses tinkered with their gimcrack home-made lamps and gave them up in despair. Only a few still try to fight these horrible black nights with their feeble home-made lanterns. The majority have turned into savages.

A man I met yesterday in Kensington Gardens as I was drawing my bucket of water told me that there were only 700 people alive in London now, and every one of us can own a streetful of houses if we want them.

An old lady who used to live opposite me at No. 10, Notting Hill-crescent has gone to live in the National Gallery. She heard that it was empty, and wanted to gratify her love of art and lust for possession during the last days that remain to her.

I went to tea with her to-day. She lives upon the pigeons that fall dead from the Nelson Column in Trafalgar Square. She cooks them over a fire which she keeps blazing with Dutch masterpieces upon the stone floor of the entrance hall. She dislikes Dutch masterpieces and enjoys the fire as much as she does the pigeons.

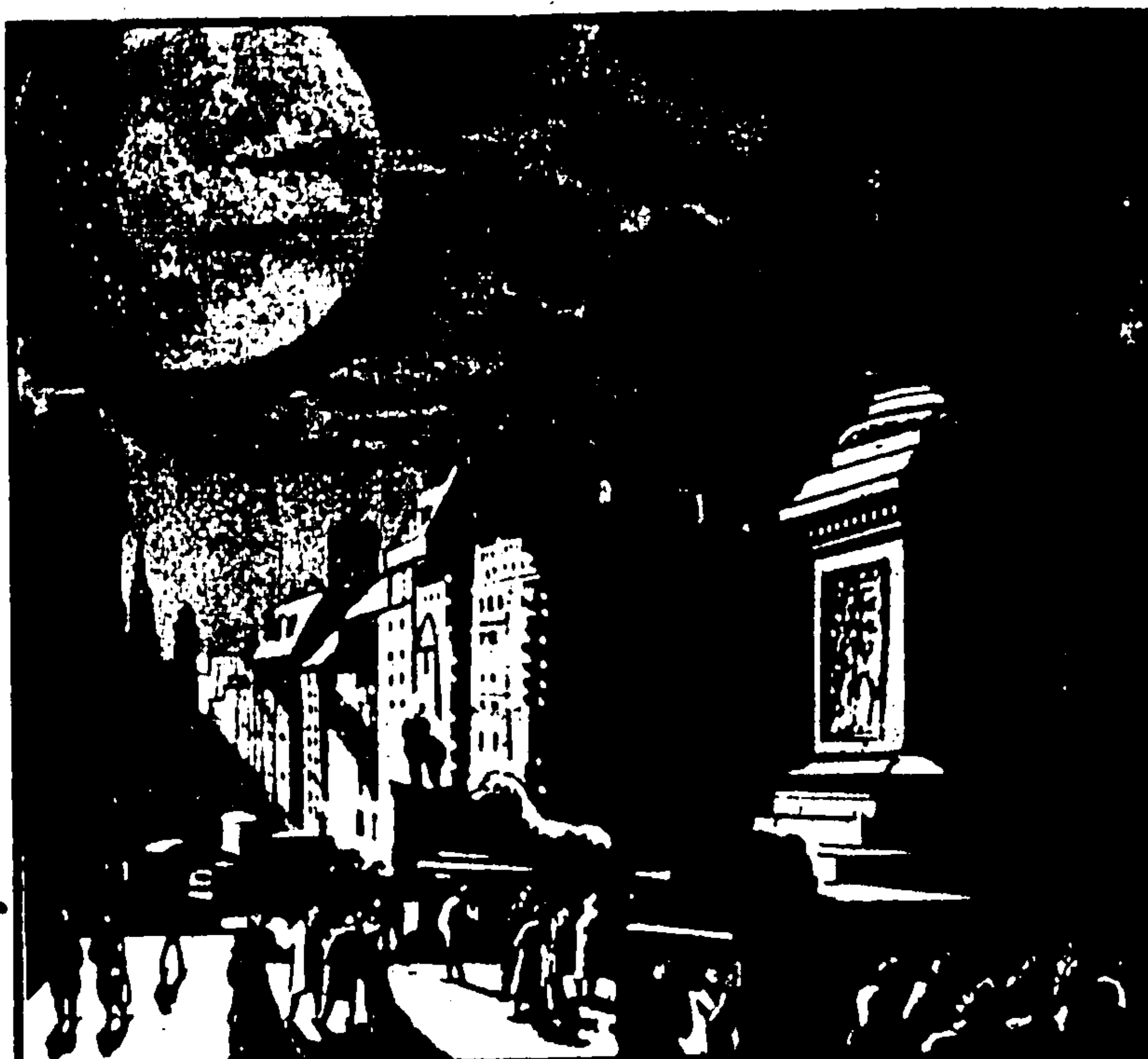
But there is no time for anecdote. I must write my story, plainly and simply, while I have the strength and sufficient light to see by.

The idea of writing my story has given me quite a lot of happiness. I alone, of all these hopeless people, shall die with the knowledge that I leave something behind that may one day be found and valued as highly as the Rosetta Stone or the priceless manuscript of Egypt.

When it is finished I shall screw it tightly in my vacuum flask and conceal it behind the bricks of my fireplace.

I am a bachelor, aged fifty-three. My name is Edgar Hopkins, and I was educated at Winchester and Jesus College, Cambridge. Upon taking my degree of Bachelor of Arts I accepted the position of Assistant Arithmetic Master to Portsea Grammar School, a post which I held, I think, with distinction for twenty-three years until the death of my father at last provided me with a small but sufficient legacy upon which to retire.

My retirement afforded me the opportunity of gratifying my interest in poultry breeding. In the summer of 1940 I purchased a small but charming estate upon the outskirts of the village of Beale in Hampshire. It was known as Beech Knoll and consisted of a nice little house upon the summit of a small hill 580 feet above sea level (a fact to which I owe my life). The terraced gardens, rich in old hollies and yew, sloped pleasantly down to a well-kept lawn and



"I was in Trafalgar-square. . . . The moon was a great shining ball whose centre seemed nearer to us than its rim. . . . It was no longer set firmly in the sky!"

meadow of five acres—a veritable paradise for poultry.

I soon became well acquainted with my neighbour, Dr. Perceval, who engaged my interest in a hobby which was destined to play a remarkable part in my life, and without which I should never have gained the knowledge and authority to write this story.

Dr. Perceval was a keen amateur astronomer, and had constructed a small observatory in the summerhouse of his garden.

Within a few months—I became, through the doctor's influence, an Associate Member of the British Lunar Society—a learned body devoted entirely to the study of the moon.

The society's headquarters were at 76, Barbara-street, Covent Garden, and consisted of the whole top floor.

My story really begins upon a summer evening seven years ago. Can it only be seven years? It seems an eternity, but careful calculation proves it to be true.

Now there are no evenings—no twilight in a land from which the sun plunges in one ghastly, blood-red torrent. It is burning yellow day—then suddenly black, utter night.

I remember upon that summer evening I saw Mr. Barlow, our village postman, about to enter my gate, and we stood for a few moments chatting in the mellow light of the sunset.

"Lovely evening, Mr. Hopkins," said Barlow. "Lovely sunset—but rusty again."

"Rusty again." It was the first time I had heard expressed in words the strangeness which I had felt towards eventide on several occasions in the past few weeks.

"I never seed that rusty colour in all my life afore," added Barlow.

I nodded in silent agreement, but could not dismiss the phenomenon so easily as Barlow did, as a mere freak of nature. There was no difference in the actual appearance of the sun, nor in the shape of the little clouds that surrounded it, as it sank gently behind the trees. But, as it passed, it left a great sombre tarnish in the sky that oppressed and disturbed me.

Lately for a little while, the phenomenon had disappeared, and the sun had set once more in its old, friendly gowns of gold and crimson. Now here it was "rusty again," as old Barlow so aptly put it.

"It disappeared three weeks ago," I said. "I'll disappear again." I took my leave, and the old postman

and closed my gate.

I paused at my arbour and sat down to read my mail—the letter that ended my days of peace; happy days that have never since returned, and never will again.

* * *

I have that letter in my pocket-book to-day, worn and battered by the dreadful misfortunes that I and my personal belongings have suffered. I copy it down in its entirety:—

THE BRITISH LUNAR SOCIETY,
Secretary: 76, Barbara-street, W.C.1.
Humphrey H. Tugwall. September 18, 1945.

Sir,
I am instructed by the president and committee to summon you to a special meeting of the British Lunar Society to be held at the society's headquarters on the 8th October at 6 p.m.

As the subject of this meeting is of the most highly confidential nature, no guests will be permitted, and members are requested to keep both this notice and the matters announced at the meeting most secret and confidential.

Yours faithfully,
Humphrey H. Tugwall.

On that fateful 8th of October—the day that was to end everything of tranquillity and happiness that life had given me—I took the evening train for London, and made my way towards the Lunar Society's headquarters in Barbara-street. But as I entered the big, familiar lecture-room, I felt at once a subtle difference from anything that I had known in that room before.

That night I think every member was present, every one of the 109 of us, and although the room was filled there was something uncanny in its quietness.

The president entered alone, glanced at us, then bent forward and whispered to the secretary, who sat to his right, at the foot of the platform. The secretary nodded, rose to his feet, and all eyes followed him as he went to the back of the room, to the door that led to the stairs.

Quietly he turned the key in the lock and pulled the green baize curtains carefully across the door to subdue any sound that might escape to the outside world.

"Gentlemen," began the president in his quiet, level voice. "Some of you have guessed the purpose of this unusual meeting. I do not wish to dramatise what I have to say, but you must know that I speak to-night by the authority of the Prime Minister, who binds one and all of us, upon our honour, to the most absolute secrecy."

He paused, and glanced down at his
(Continued on Page 17)

THE HOPKINS MANUSCRIPT

(Continued from Page 16)

notes.

"You will remember the eclipse of the sun on February 12 this year. At Mount Wilson Observatory in California the foremost scientists of the world gathered. Conditions were perfect and the finest equipment in the world was available.

"Gentlemen, the moon was twelve seconds late. Not only was it late, but the cause was definitely established.

"Some gigantic force has disturbed the moon from the path that it has pursued from the dawn of time; it has slowed up the moon's progress through space and forced it upon a journey towards the earth.

"It was ascertained that the moon

is returning to the earth at the steadily increasing speed of eight miles in every twenty-four hours.

"The moon, as you are aware, was normally at an average distance of 250,000 miles from the earth. Tonight, at midnight, it is only 217,500 miles away; to-morrow night it will be 470 miles nearer and each night it is drawing closer at a speed increasing by eight miles per day.

"The congress at Mount Wilson Observatory broke up on March 15.

"When its discovery was placed before the responsible Governments of the world the decision of the statesmen in favour of secrecy was unanimous.

"An International Committee of Control was established. Each Government held a conference at which the leading men of science, politics, Church and Press were told the truth and bound by oath to secrecy as the only means of stopping world-wide panic.

"That, gentlemen, is all.

"But now it is recognised that the time has come to bring all men of standing and knowledge in the scientific world within this 'conspiracy of silence.' It is your duty not only to keep these facts secret to yourselves; if rumour gets abroad it is your duty to deny it. You are men whose word upon such matters will be believed, and even if you are forced to lie you will do so as part of your duty to preserve the peace and happiness of the world to the last possible moment."

The president was silent.

* * *

It was as if time had stopped dead, and every one of those men around me sat as if embalmed for all eternity. There was not a sound.

And in that icy silence the terrible meaning of it all crashed into my brain.

The moon, a mighty mass of dead, ice-cold rock—three thousand miles in thickness and two thousand million tons in weight—was plunging towards us through the night.

The clear voice of Dr. Perceval broke the silence.

"To what extent can the president give us hope?" he asked. "What hope is there of the earth surviving?"

The president rose from his chair.

"Science, as you may well guess, is divided upon the question whether the earth can survive this collision," he said quietly. "The earth, as you know, is no more than a stout crust that encases a furnace of molten rock. It is generally believed that the impact of the moon will split the earth to such an extent and to such a depth that this subterranean furnace will explode and blow the cool outer crust of the earth into fragments.

"Another school of thought believes that the moon may strike the earth a glancing blow and ricochet, as it were, into space again—once more becoming a satellite of the earth or vanishing altogether into the limitless spaces of the universe.

"If this 'glancing blow' occurs, the

(Continued on Page 18)

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oil field dynamiters! EDWARD G. ROBINSON in "BLACKMAIL" with Ruth Hussey...1939's most startling screen thrill! ♦ SPENCER TRACY, ROBERT YOUNG and LARAINÉ DAY in "NORTHWEST PASSAGE" in Technicolor. The famed novel that thrilled millions, springs to life on the screen in an epic, star-crowded M-G-M production! ♦ Unforgettable musical thrills! NELSON EDDY, ILONA MASSEY and FRANK MOROAN in "BALALAIKA"...Exciting love drama in melody! ♦ You won't want to miss ROBERT MONTGOMERY and MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN in "BUSMAN'S HONEY-MOON". ♦ EDDIE CANTOR in "40 LITTLE MOTHERS". ♦ "CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT", a star-studded cast in Damon Runyon's uproarious story. ♦ "ZIEGFELD FOLLIES"...the breath-taking successor to "The Great Ziegfeld". ♦ ROBERT DONAT in "THE RUINED CITY" from Neville Shute's provocative novel, "Kindling". ♦ CLARK GABLE in "NOT TOO NARROW, NOT TOO DEEP", epic adventure of fugitives at sea! ♦ NORMA SHEARER in Noel Coward's "TONIGHT AT 8:30" and "PRIDE AND PREJUDICE". ♦ MICKEY ROONEY in "A YANK AT ETON". ♦ "THE YEARLING" from the Pulitzer Prize novel. ♦ ELEANOR POWELL and FRED ASTAIRE in "BROADWAY MELODY OF 1940", first time together in a glittering tap and tune triumph! ♦ Great new pictures in the HARDY FAMILY and DR. KILDARE series...and MORE! WATCH FOR THEM!

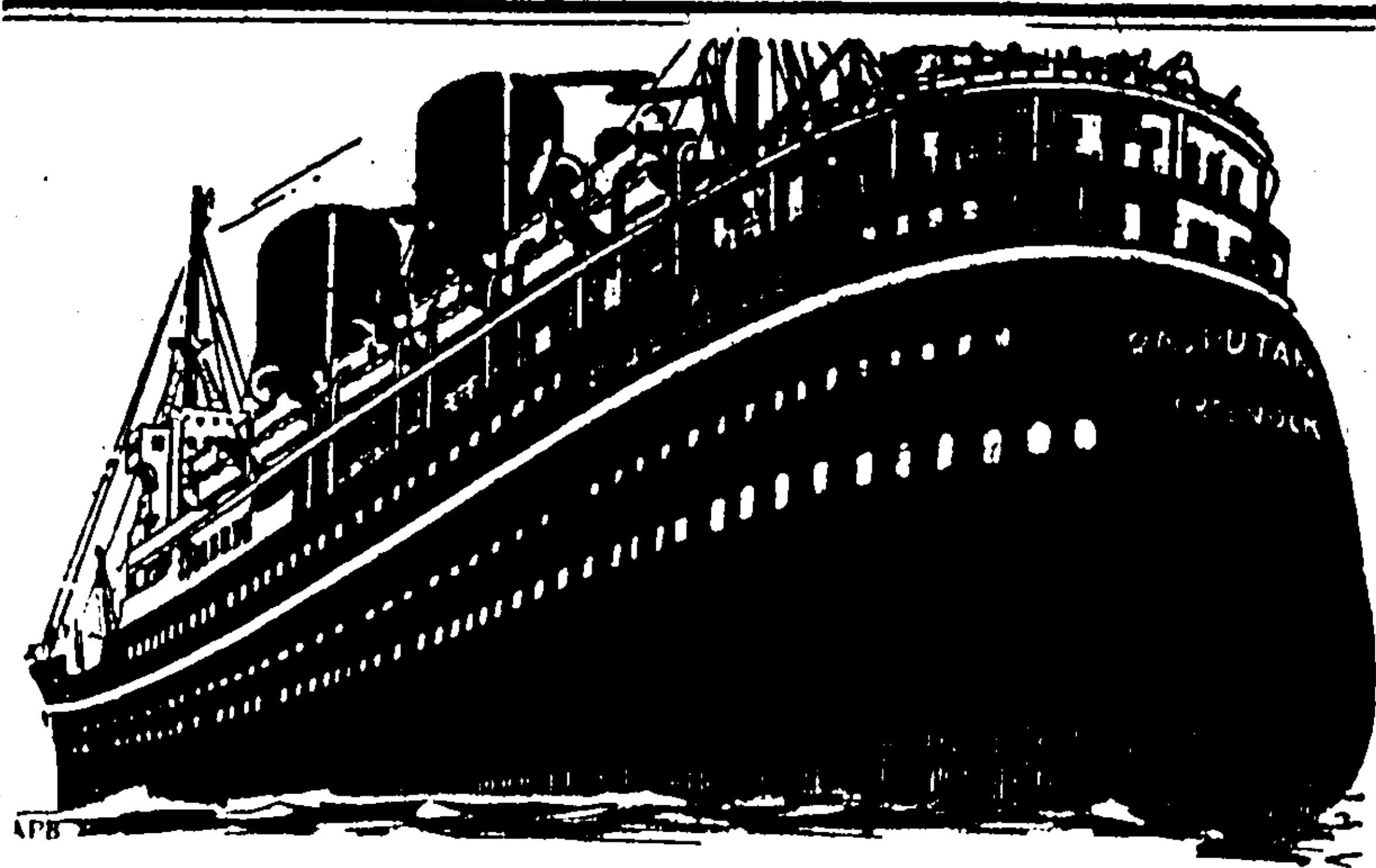
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THE HOPKINS MANUSCRIPT

(Continued from Page 17)

chances of survival are dependent upon the severity of the impact. If it is no more than a slight 'graze' then we may reasonably hope that life, even some fragment of human life, might survive.

"We can assume that the shock would displace the earth but not its atmosphere. Crudely stated, the earth would be jolted out of the skin of air that loosely surrounds it — but that skin would return and settle evenly around the earth again. We should suffer tornado and flood upon two sides of the earth as it slides out of its atmosphere, and a temporary disappearance of air upon the other sides. But I repeat that everything would depend upon the nature of the impact."

He looked up with a faint smile.

"Now I am glad to speak of something constructive and hopeful after so much gloom. The engineering corps of all armies are at work upon subterranean strongholds, built with the utmost strength and fitted with every possible protection against shock, flood and lack of air. The officers and men employed believe the dugouts to be against air raid and gas attack from foreign Powers. The number of people to be protected in this way cannot be more than the smallest proportion of

our population, and the selection will, of course, rest with the Government."

I suppose we were all affected, far more deeply than we realised. Or possibly it was the result of the president's reply to the last question of the evening.

He stated that, upon present indications, the moon would strike the earth upon the evening of May 3 at about eight o'clock.

Seven months of life remained to me and the rest of the world — two hundred days. How ought I to change my mode of life to get the best from those precious remaining hours?

I could not risk divulging the Secret.

No, I must do my duty by carrying on exactly as if nothing had happened.

Had I known of the things that lay ahead of me I believe that I should never have returned by train to my home that night. I believe that I should have gone down the hillside to the River Arun and died while there still remained distinction between life and death.

* * *

As if to pay compensation in advance for her approaching madness, Nature presented us with a perfect autumn and a mild winter during those grim seven months.

(Continued on Page 21)

POST OFFICE

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

Christmas and New Year Cards bearing not more than five written words and enclosed in open envelopes are accepted by the Post Office at the rate for printed matter, i.e. 5 cents per 2 ounces, for all countries. Hong Kong, China and Macao at 2 cents per 2 ounces. Envelopes must not be closed.

INWARD MAILS

Straits	December 29.
Shanghai	December 29.
Sauwakan	December 29.
Canton	December 29.
Japan and Shanghai	December 29.
Bangkok, Saigon and Tourane	December 30.
Air Mail by "Imperial Airways Direct Service"—London	December 30.
date, 23rd December	December 31.
Shanghai and Amoy	December 31.
Straits and Saigon	December 31.
Japan, Shanghai and Formosa	December 31.
Japan	December 31.
London and Straits	December 31.
Shanghai	December 31.
Shanghai	December 31.
Shanghai	December 31.
Straits	January 1.
Haiphong, Hoihow and Fort Bayard	January 1.
Haiphong and Hoihow	January 1.

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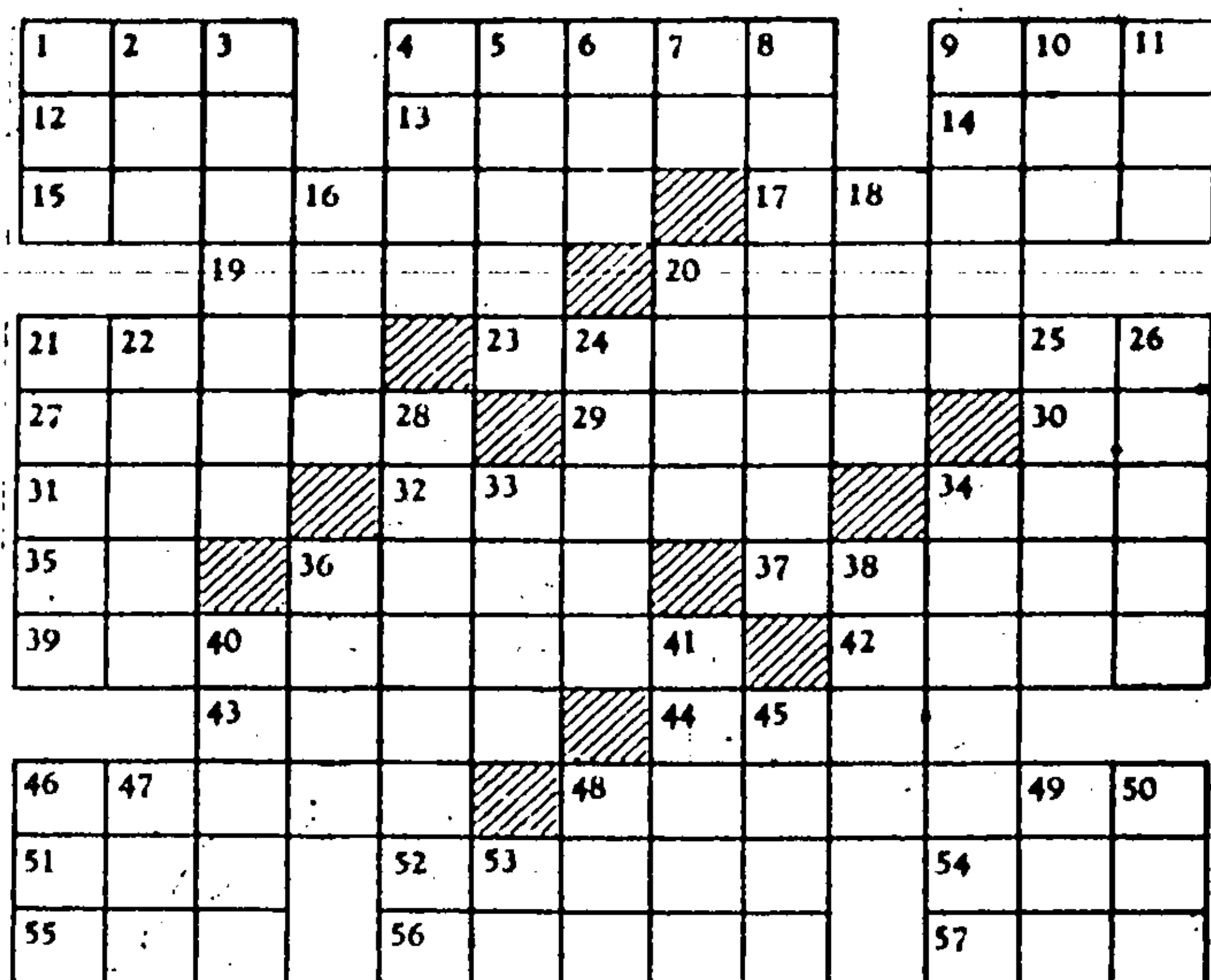
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HORIZONTAL

- 1 Chance
- 4 Tag
- 9 Cry of cat
- 12 Manner
- 13 Corundum
- 14 Eggs
- 15 Merry
- 17 Classified
- 19 Rugs
- 20 Capacity measure
- 21 Tropical blackbirds
- 23 Voters
- 27 Rosters
- 29 Part of eye
- 30 One
- 31 Goddess of mischief
- 32 Carries on
- 34 Gaming cube
- 35 Pronoun
- 36 Size of type
- 37 Large deer
- 39 Decoration
- 42 War god
- 43 Branches
- 44 Damage
- 46 Similar
- 48 Kind of roof

VERTICAL

- 51 Bulgarian coin
- 52 River of Europe
- 54 By birth
- 55 Insect
- 56 To scatter
- 57 Decade

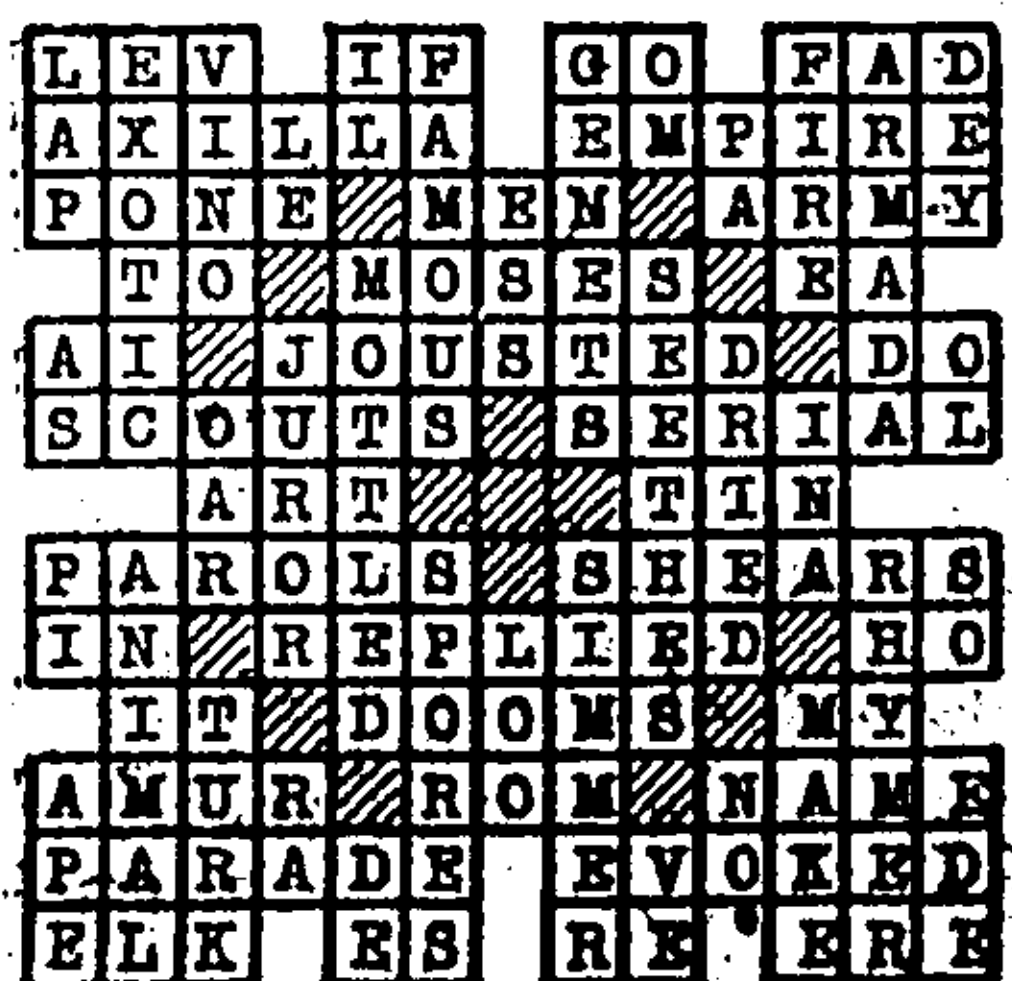
VERTICAL

- 1 Ugly old woman
- 2 To be ill
- 3 A basis of argument
- 4 Forsaken
- 5 To entertain
- 6 Babylonian god

VERTICAL

- 7 Teutonic deity
- 8 Exaggerated sentiment
- 9 Slogan
- 10 Day before
- 11 Small mass
- 16 Orient
- 18 Emmets
- 20 French: father
- 21 Poplar
- 22 Saltpeter
- 24 Goods cast adrift
- 25 To lift
- 26 Daggers
- 28 Natators
- 33 Cards
- 34 Torpid
- 36 Recreation tract
- 38 Sculls
- 40 Unsophisticated
- 41 Old title
- 45 Again
- 46 Vestment
- 47 Shelter
- 48 Russian commune
- 49 Female ruff
- 50 Study
- 53 High tension (abbr.)

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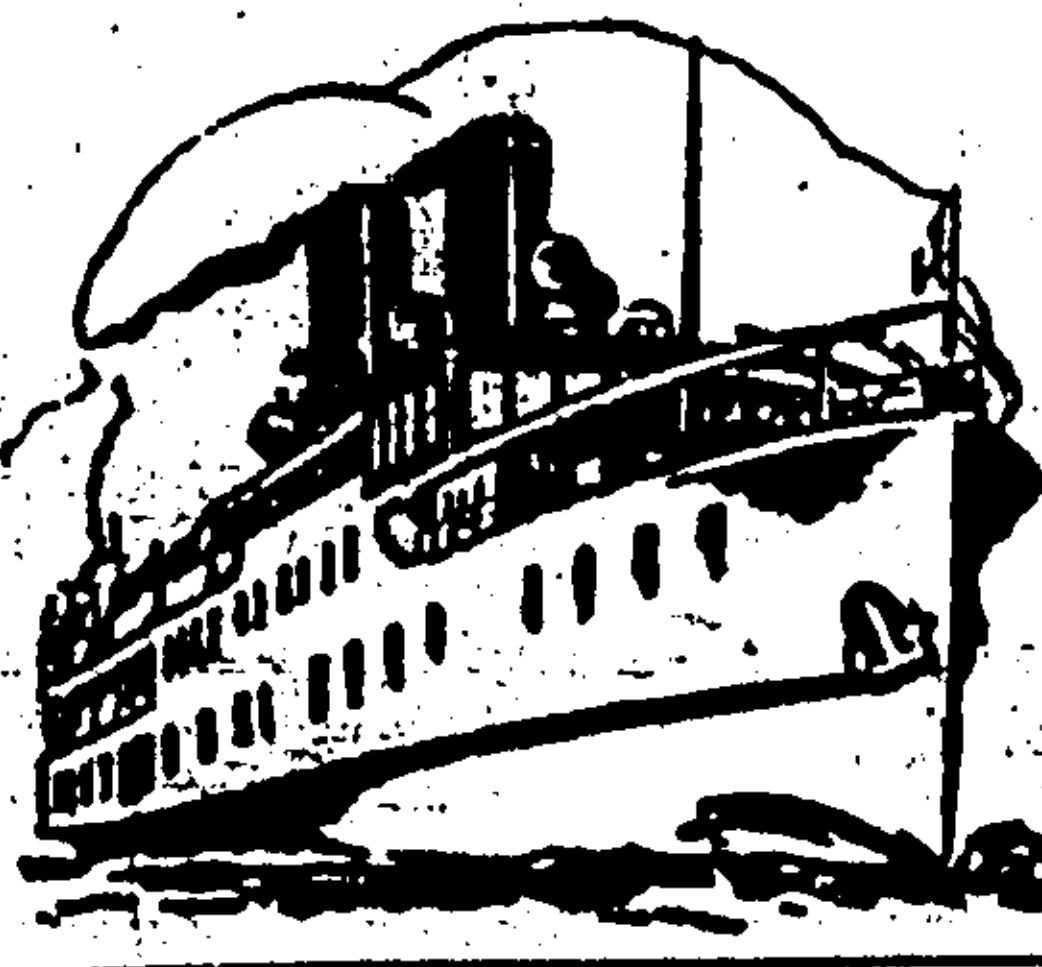
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PONY ROUN

TRIBUTE SOLD FOR \$450

There was quite a large gathering of turf enthusiasts at the public auction of race ponies held in the paddock of the Hong Kong Jockey Club yesterday. Mr. E. V. M. R. de Sousa was the auctioneer.

Ponies sold were:—The Mermaid, a chestnut 1939 subscription griffin, Mr. T. C. Yuen, \$50; Tiger Eyes, a skew 1939 subscription griffin, Mr. T. H. G. Brayfield, \$50; Factorite, a chestnut 1939 griffin, Mr. S. W. Tang, \$30; Gold Sovereign, a bay 1936 subscription griffin, Mr. F. M. L. Soares, \$35; Soldier of China, a grey 1934 griffin Lee, \$50; Tribute, a 1938 grey subscription griffin, Mr. Tang Man-wa, \$450. National Pride and Pinfarthings were withdrawn.

There were no bids for Flummery, Soldier of Scotland, and High Tower.

There were no bids for Flummery, an Australian bay 14.3 hands, hunter and steeplechaser who has won and been many times placed at Kwantli. It was announced that the animal will be given away free to anyone wanting it on. Application to the secretary of Jockey Club.

Y.M.C.A. HOCKEY

The following will represent Y.M.C.A. 1st XI in a hockey match against R.A.F. tomorrow at 4.15 p.m. on the Y.M.C.A. ground:

V. Benwell, H. Jordan, D. Yurienn, I. Kempton, R. Bates, A. Austen, D. Smith, C. Gemmell, S. Morgan, P. Taylor and L. Coomb.

WILLIAMSON NOT FOR SHANGHAI

Williamson, the Kowloon soccer pivot, one of the best centre-halves in the Colony, will not be available for the Interport series with Shanghai this year.

LOCAL DOLLAR

The demand rate on the Hong Kong dollar to-day was 1/2 13/16.

London silver was quoted yesterday at 22-11/16 for spot and 22-7/8 for forward.

The London on New York rate was quoted at £ — U.S.\$4.02 and the New York on London rate at £ — U.S.\$3.95-3/8.

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Headmaster, HARRY BELL,
B. A. (Cantab.)

COURT'S JUDGMENT

An Indian constable, B383, was ordered to pay 50 cents to a hawker by Mr. T. J. Houston this morning, when Yiu Sum, 34, was charged with hawking without a licence.

Mr. Houston said the Constable had wasted so much of the time of defendant for so minor an offence that he must pay him 50 cents compensation.

BRASS-NECKED OR PLAIN DUMB?

After stealing two mats and five grass-brooms, Li Chuen, 29, attempted to sell them back to the original owner yesterday.

The articles were recognised and he was arrested.

This morning, Li was fined \$6 or three weeks' hard labour at the Kowloon Magistracy.

BRITISH MINISTERS IN PARIS

Paris, To-day.

The French Minister of the Interior was host at a luncheon yesterday to Sir Samuel Hoare, Lord Privy Seal; Lord Hankey, Minister without Portfolio; and Sir Ronald Campbell, the British Ambassador in Paris.—Reuter.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS BANNED

Mexico City, To-day.

All schools in Mexico giving religious instruction have been banned by official decree. — Reuter.

END OF THE YEAR

The time signal given by means of lights at 9 p.m. from the Royal Observatory will be repeated at midnight on the 31st of December, the termination of the programme signifying the end of the year 1939.

DANISH STEAMER SUNK BY MINE

London, To-day.

The Danish steamer Hanne (1080 tons) was sunk by a mine off the north-east coast of England yesterday. — Reuter.

LATEST FRENCH WAR COMMUNIQUE

Paris, To-day.

Last night's French war communique said there had been reduced activity of contact units. — Reuter.



How Clear Is Your
Horizon?

If the horizon of your health is overcast by the dark clouds of constipation, torpid liver, sick headache, dizziness, biliousness—take Pinkettes and your outlook will quickly brighten. Pinkettes, tiny laxative pills, dispel such troubles naturally over-night; acting in a gentle way, they neither gripe nor purge and leave no ill after-effects. Convenient to use and sure in effect, Pinkettes are appreciated equally by men and women. Try a dose to-night, you will feel greatly better and brighter in the morning.

PINKETTES

Keep You Well And Happy.

THE HOPKINS MANUSCRIPT

(Continued from Page 18)

At the December meeting of the Lunar Society, the president told us that shortly after Christmas the moon would have approached within 150,000 miles. Its increased size and general appearance would then become so obvious to the naked eye that it was certain to end the Secret.

That would be three months before the end.

A few days afterwards the Prime Minister made a remarkable speech in Parliament.

The headlines in the newspapers startled me. They announced: "DUG-OUTS FOR ALL," and for a moment I thought the Secret was out. But as I read the speech I realised what a clever move had been made.

The danger of air attack by foreign enemy, said the Prime Minister, was at last to be given vigorous attention and every town and village in Great Britain was to have its dugout for the protection of its citizens against bombs and gas.

Every community was immediately to set up its "dugouts committee" and work was to begin at once under the supervision of local engineers who would receive full details and specifications from the Ministry of Defence.

Personally I was delighted with this vigorous and sensible move. It meant that preparations would proceed in an orderly manner, free from the risk of panic, and when the truth had to be told the dugouts would be so far advanced that the news would act solely as a stimulus for completion.

It also made my secret infinitely more exciting and important, for I could undoubtedly assist (without divulging the Secret) by suggesting the

best place to put the Beadle dugout. In accordance with my usual custom I arranged to spend Christmas with my Uncle Henry and Aunt Rose at Notting Hill.

The unsettled weather had turned to snow and I journeyed to London over a lovely mantle of whiteness.

As I walked down the platform at Waterloo I saw Colonel Parker, who lives at the Manor House opposite to me across the valley at home. With him was a tall boy of about sixteen whom I recognised as his nephew Robin.

My retired life had never brought me into close touch with Colonel Parker, but I knew that since early childhood Robin and his sister Pat had lived with him—their father, a major in the Indian Army, having been killed upon the North-West Frontier, and their mother, I understood, having died when Robin was born.

I had watched the boy and girl grow up; I had seen them galloping across the downs with a contemptuous disregard for their necks, and I had always admired them for their abundant gaiety and vigour.

In terrible days, soon to come now, I was to know those young people in conditions tragically different from this gay atmosphere of Christmas.

At Notting Hill in their cosy dining-room Uncle Henry and Aunt Rose were as delightful an old couple as ever. I always called them connoisseurs of happiness, for Uncle Henry was in comfortable circumstances and had been retired from the Office of Works for several years.

We had a delightfully boisterous Christmas dinner, and on Boxing Day I went with my uncle and aunt to see the pantomime at Drury Lane with Sidney and Jessie Philpotts. The Philpotts were old friends of my family, and Sidney, although he had once

played chess for Hertfordshire, was quite a modest, unassuming fellow.

Jessie was a good-natured soul, and it was a wonderful evening—an evening that is enshrined in my memory because it was the last—the very last upon which I heard carefree laughter around me. I have heard laughter since, but it has been the laughter of heroism or the laughter of insanity.

My uncle had hired a car for the occasion, but knowing from our journey to the theatre how uncomfortably crowded it was with five persons in it, I insisted upon walking part of the way home and picking up a taxi at Piccadilly-circus.

Jessie Philpotts called out, "Behave yourself!" as she climbed into the car, and although her husband exclaimed, "Jessie, dear!" I did not resent the pleasantry, with its implied suggestion that I was a dark horse when left alone.

It was the loveliest night imaginable. A crisp frost lay underfoot and the rooftops glistened with the fine sparkle of snow that had fallen in the afternoon. All along the Strand went merry-makers, singing together, arm in arm, and people were gushing from the theatres. The whole scene was intoxicating, and I lingered amid it, reluctant to end a delightful evening.

Trafalgar-Square was almost deserted, but my attention was drawn to a silent little group beneath the Nelson Column . . . an incongruous little group of people drawn together in the common bond of curiosity. There were a few ragged wayfarers; two or three ordinary-looking men, who may have been clerks on their way to night duty; a messenger boy, and some people in evening dress. And all were silently staring into the sky.

I stared up with them. Heaven knows I should have expected what I saw, and yet of all that group I must have been the most surprised and horrified. For the past week the snow-laden clouds had permitted the moon to grow to its full in secret—and here it was, blazing its awful message to the earth at last.

No longer was it the flat, silver disc that man had known since man began to live. It was a ball—a great shining ball whose centre seemed nearer to us than its rim. It was no longer set firmly in the sky; it had broken loose from its time-rusted moorings in the heavens and seemed to hover in quivering uncertainty between sky and earth.

Its old familiar face had gone and in its place were those craters of awe-inspiring beauty that until now the telescope alone had revealed.

I think the silence of that little group was more torturing than the sight above me. Here stood humanity—facing at last its awful test, and it neither moved nor spoke. I had to speak. . . . I had to make some sound to break that uncanny stillness. I turned to one of the unshaven men beside me.

"What is it?" I asked.

He turned a pair of dull, hollow eyes towards me and jerked his head upwards.

"Ask yourself," he said.

There was no more to say.

From the surrounding streets came the sound of singing. Big Ben, down by the river, began to strike the hour of midnight; cars purred around the square, and I walked on alone.

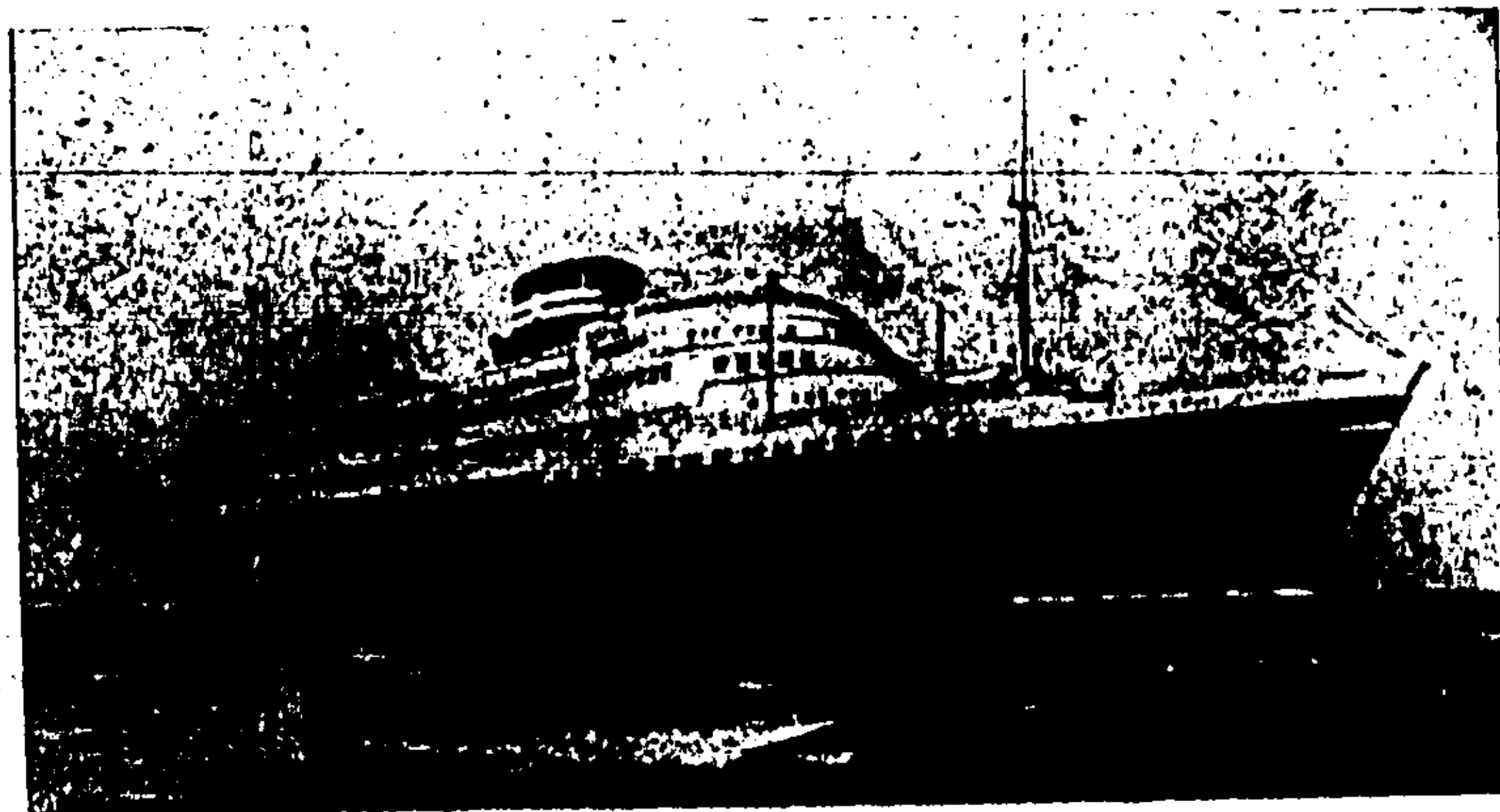
The Secret was out. It was no longer my secret. It belonged to the world.

TO-MORROW:

"The world learns the truth"

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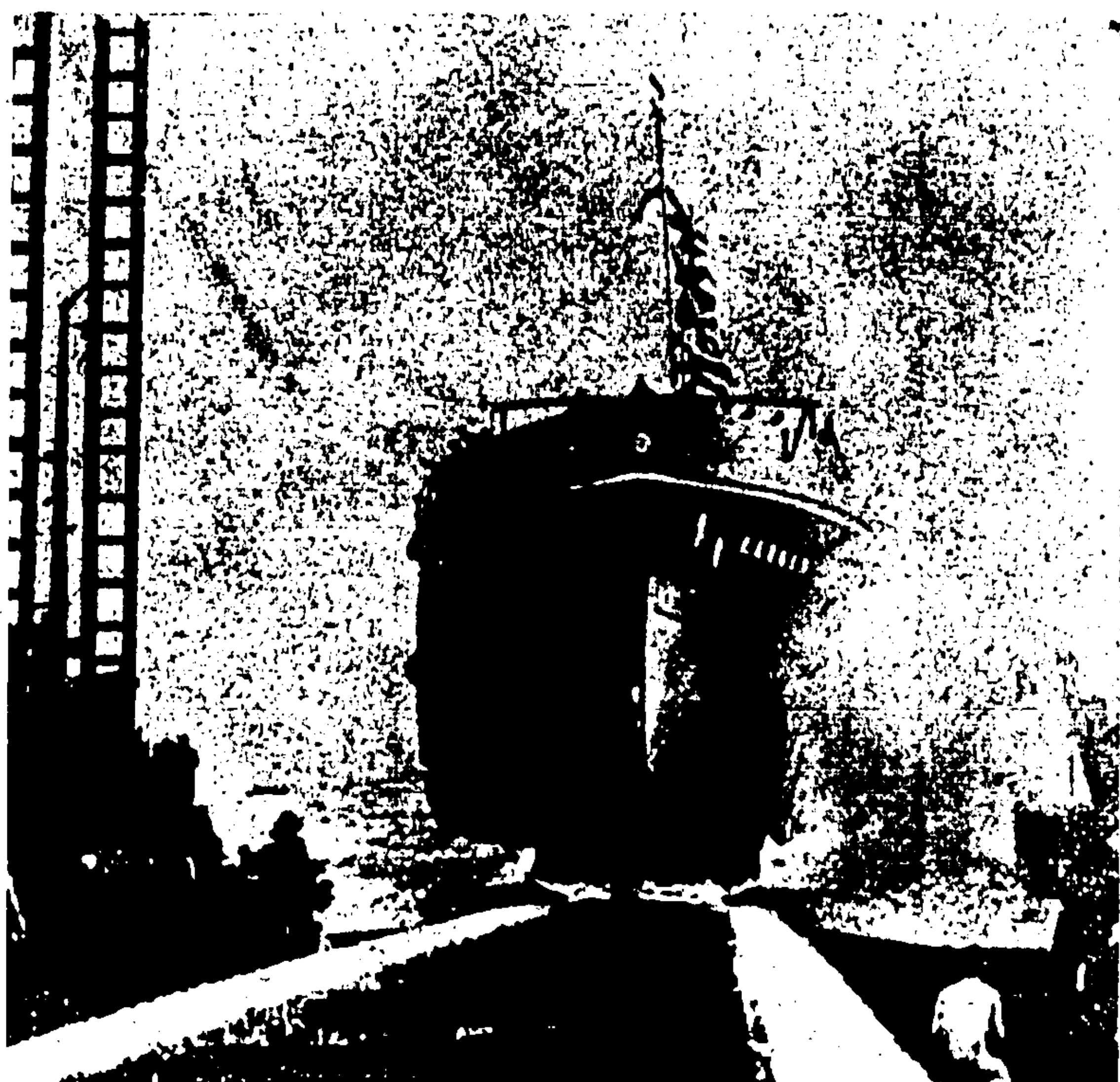
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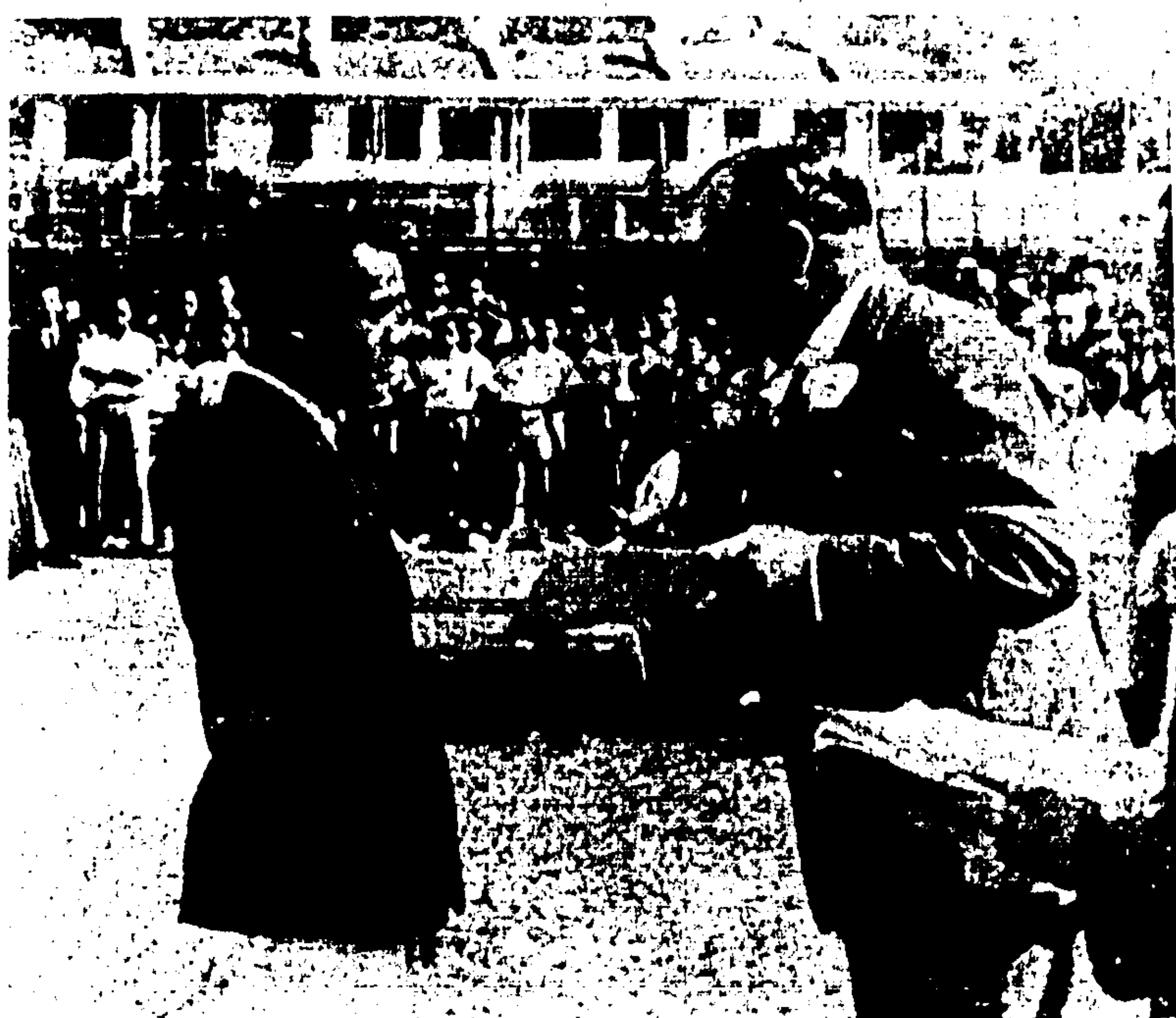
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His Excellency the Governor presenting a certificate to the trainer of the Hunghom Kalfong School, winners of the Physical training competition held on the Club ground recently.



Students of the Hung Hom Kalfong school, winners of the Physical Training Competition, giving a demonstration, which was witnessed by His Excellency the Governor.



A line-out during the T.T. Rugby game on the Club ground on Saturday between the Club and Army.

ARMY SPORTLIGHT

(By "SQUADDY")

THE Christmas match on Club ground between Army and Hong Kong Cricket Club was a really enjoyable affair this year. The weather was perfect cricket weather and, although a bit nippy out of the sun when spectating, it must have been just right for the players.

I was not there for all the match but was fortunate in seeing most of the Army innings, and I thought they made a gallant effort to get so near to the formidable total of 301 set by their opponents.

With all these runs scored, the wicket must have cut up a little by the time Army started batting shortly before three o'clock. Logan made one of his few appearances in the Army side this season, and, without doubt, added strength to the eleven. He spends most of his time footballing these days but I expect he will eventually return to his first love.

Denyer was rather disappointing during this game, not coming off with the ball or bat.

The obvious weakness in the Army side was their bowling, which never reached great heights, although Major Harvey surpassed his previous performances and finished up with the fine average of 6 for 56 after bowling 13 overs. His innings of 38 was also a very worthy effort and came at a very opportune moment.

Captain Grose is proving a great asset to the Army side here and quite as much through his excellent work behind the stumps as with his batting. He rarely fails to come off in a game, and, on the form he was showing in the game in question, might quite possibly have done great things but for the unfortunate way he came out when trying to turn one to leg.

THE Combined Services eleven to play against the Rest of the Colony on New Year's day in the good name of Charity, has been selected and the side is quite a useful one.

Robinson, the Navy custodian, will be between the sticks and two Army backs will be in front of him—Hills and Sheehan. There is some doubt about Sheehan at the moment as he strained his back in the Ireland-China game last week and has not fully recovered. If he is not fit either Hendy of the Navy or Naysmith of the Scots will probably get into the side. The Middlesex wing half-backs, Freshwater and Wilkinson, have been chosen and they will have Layhe the Navy centre half between them. Layhe is a comparative newcomer to local football but has, I believe, played for the Navy at Home. Thoburn will be at inside-right although he has played most of his games this year at inside left, and will have another Naval man well known locally as his wing man, Phippings. The left wing is Saw, and Duffield the Ordnance star, whilst

(Continued at Foot of Next Column)



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Sommerville's Big Score

(By "STRIKE")

Geo. North's highest score of 237 for Ten Pins for the month, after 26 days, has been beaten by Corporal S. Sommerville of the Signals who made 252 on December 26. His effort was brilliant and he thoroughly deserves the honour of being the highest scorer for the month, and I am of the opinion that his score will not be beaten this month.

He started off with two strikes in succession, then two spares, then six strikes in a row and with his extra two balls making a spare. Sommerville has made over 200 on several occasions and I was not surprised to see him score his 252.

On December 23, a Ten Pin Match (friendly) was played between U.S.S. Asheville and the Signals. Owing to insufficient time at their disposal, the match was a three-game one, and it resulted in a win for "Asheville" by 67 pins, the individual results being as follows:—

ASHEVILLE		SIGNALS	
C. G. Cunningham	443	H. B. Blount	440
W. J. Balaski	433	J. H. Watts	438
J. A. Harvey	419	S. Sommerville	375
M. O. Gray	386	T. W. Wright	361

As can be seen by the scores there was no brilliant bowling on either side, the highest individual score being made by C. G. Cunningham of the Asheville with 189, the rest of both teams trailing well behind with an average of about 140 to 150 per player. All who took part are capable of doing much better than this—probably the near approach of the festive season had something to do with their poor display!

On December 26, there was a friendly Duck Pin match played between Asheville and Mindanao and again in this case owing to lack of time only a three-game match could be played.

Owing to duties such good players as Keplenger, Thomas and Reichold from the Mindanao could not turn out, and Philo, Seay, Slater and Stafford deputised. Although beaten rather heavily they gave a good account of themselves the individual scores being:—

ASHEVILLE		MINDANAO	
C. G. Cunningham	305	H. W. Seay	252
H. N. Levy	270	B. R. Stafford	251
J. A. Harvey	268	T. A. Slater	219
W. E. Wood	191	N. R. Philo	211
M. O. Gray	92		

There was quite a good singles match played on December 27 in the second round of the Singles Handicap Competition, between S. A. Ismail and A. Odell. Ismail was plus 25 in the handicap and A. Odell plus 11, the match resulted in a rather decided win for S. A. Ismail by 83 pins, including his handicap.

I was rather surprised that Odell did not put up a better show as he is really a good bowler. On this occasion, however, he did not do well at all. Ismail had the measure of him in all games and thoroughly deserved his fine win.

Individual results were as follows:—
S. A. Ismail.....506 A. Odell.....423
Odell is a 200 Club man, having made this score and over on several occasions, and his poor display was probably due to lack of practice. Ismail thoroughly deserved his victory as he is bowling well at present. He should go a long way in the Competition.

MRS. SOONG'S FEAT
Mrs. E. Soong has beaten Mrs. Horton's highest score of the month (189) by making 192 in a match on December 28.

Mrs. Soong, besides being one of the best Duck Pins players, not only in these Alleys but probably in the East, is a Ten Pin player of no mean ability.

The highest scores for the month up to going to press are:—

TEN PINS	
Ladies: Mrs. E. Soong	192
Men: G. Sommerville	252
DUCK PINS	
Ladies: Mrs. J. S. Landolt	184
Men: C. B. Martinez	144

S.C.A.A. TEAMS FOR TO-MORROW

The following have been chosen to represent South China in three shield games on Saturday:—

"A" Team:—Tam Kwan-kon; Lee Tin-sang, Mak Shiu-hon; Lau Hing-chol, Leung Wing-chiu, Soong Ling-sing, Tang Kwong-sum, Fung King-cheong, Lee Wai-long, Lai Shiu-wing and Ip Pak-wah.

"B" Team:—Cheung Wing-chol; Yuen Shiu, Hau Yung-sang; Yeung Kan-po, Lam Tak-po, Lau Ting-sang; Yeung Shiu-yick, Tam Chen-kin, Chan Tak-fai, Tam Woon-cheung, and Luk Tat-hang.

the leader of the attack is Hossack.

Providing the side plays up to form I see no reason why it should not prove as good if not better than the Rest of the Colony. In any case I think the side ensures a good game being seen and it is to be hoped that the match will get the support it deserves.

A meeting to discuss the Athletic meeting which will probably be held early next year has been held but details are not yet to hand. As soon as they are available it will probably be noted that there are big changes from last year's meeting.

BLACKBURN INJURED

C. Blackburn the Police soccer full-back, who has been chosen to represent the Rest of the Colony in the Charity match on New Year's Day in aid of the D.W.O.F., was injured in the game against England on Tuesday and will not be able to play for another week.

CLUB WITHOUT BIDWELL

(By "SCRUM-HALF")

Navy have made four changes in their team to meet Club in the latter's last game in the Triangular Rugby Tournament on the Club ground to-morrow, commencing at 4 p.m.

Drury will be at wing three-quarter in place of Kennedy, Ferris is in the second row of the pack instead of Longmuir, Fanshawe has taken the place of Ferris at wing forward and McCann is the other wing forward to the exclusion of Gale.

Club are without Bidwell, who is nursing an injured ankle, and Heasman and Bompas, both of whom are unavailable. Thompson will be at full-back to allow Henderson to go back to scrum-half. Charter has taken Bidwell's place in the centre and Thomson is playing at fly-half. At forward Wanklyn and Kennedy are the newcomers.

Following are the teams:

Club:—Thompson; Stewart, Hutchison, Charter and Bosanquet; Thomson and Henderson; Walkden (Captain), Castleton and Wanklyn; Kennedy and Needham; Deane, Taylor and Godfrey.

Navy:—Lieutenant Bax; Tel. Bowden, Tel. Paul, Pay Lieutenant Stevens and Mr. Drury; Lieutenant Carter and Lieutenant Commander Clark; L. S. A. Palmer, Lieutenant (E) Brown, Ldg. Wtr. Barlow, Chief Writer King, Ldg. Wtr. Ferris, Lieutenant Fanshawe, Pay Lieutenant Charles and Captain McCann, R.M.

Reserves:—A. B. Longmuir and L. A. C. Gale.

NANCARROW IN FORM

At Sookunpoo yesterday, Royal Air Force beat R.A.M.C. by 7 wickets in a friendly cricket match.

P/O. Nancarrow was in great form taking 5 wickets for 24 runs and participating in a fourth wicket partnership with Cpl. King (43) of 65 runs.

R.A.M.C.	
Q.M.S. Patterson, lbw., b New	20
Cpl. Webb, b Nancarrow	7
Maj. Swyer, b Nancarrow	12
Agst. Shorthouse, b New	13
Pte. Boocock, b Nancarrow	19
Cpl. Musson, b Waddington	1
Pte. Martin, b Nancarrow	7
Cpl. Parkin, not out	7
Cpl. Watt, b Nancarrow	0
Cpl. Newton, b Waddington	0
Q.M.A. Green, b Waddington	0
Extras (W1, B8, LB3)	12
Totals	98

Bowling Analysis		O.	M.	R.	W.
Gillespie	2	0	13	0	
Waddington	5	0	33	3	
Nancarrow	8	1	24	5	
New	5	1	16	2	

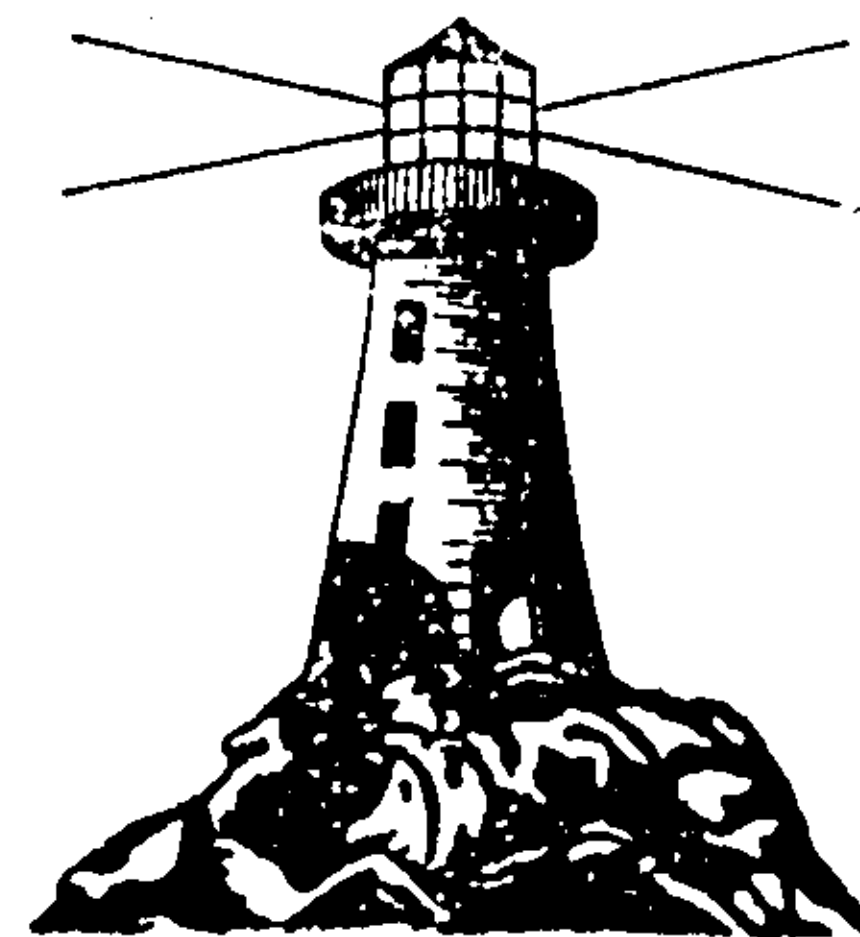
R.A.F.	
P/O New, b Green	26
A. C. Lillie, lbw., b Green	5
Cpl. Waddington, st Patterson, b Green	8
P/O Nancarrow, retired	37
Cpl. King, b Boocock	43
Cpl. Harrison, c Swyer, b Parkin	10
A. C. Stewart, st Patterson, b Webb	7
A. C. Gillespie, retired	6
A. C. Goodwin, retired	12
A. C. Hemsley, not out	0
Extras (W1, B1, LB4)	6
Totals (for 9 wks.)	160

Sgt. Rix did not bat.

Bowling Analysis		O.	M.	R.	W.
Martin	7	0	34	0	
Green	7	0	39	3	
Boocock	3	0	34	1	
Webb	3	0	26	1	
Parkin	2	0	12	1	
Musson	1	0	9	0	

Club "A" Team

Following will represent Club "A" against Durham Light Infantry at 2.45 p.m. the game being refereed by Lt. Cmdr. Linton:—H. F. Hopkins; H. van Leeuwen (Captain); D. Hynes; D. B. Nelson and R. M. Lavalle; B. C. Fay; and C. G. Tresidder; J. S. Dunnett, K. W. Salter, E. W. Stout; B. Hynes, T. Swan; F. Burford, A. G. Dalziel and J. Redman.



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RIFLE shooting is a branch of sport that conveys little to the man in the street. Even the Volunteer, who is expected to know something about a rifle and who fires a classification annually, very often fails to appreciate the real enjoyment to be derived from an afternoon on the range.

A few weeks ago I attended one of the Wednesday shoots under the auspices of Hong Kong Rifle Association at Kowloon City and spent a very pleasant afternoon. As one hand put it, there is no more enjoyable way of spending a lazy afternoon than at these shoots.

Firing commences shortly before two o'clock and on the afternoon I attended, although some 80 people participated, there was little delay as 20 targets were in use.

ON this occasion each detail consisted of 40 men, one target being allotted to two men who fire alternately.

Each man is allowed eight rounds

EASTERN F. C. FOR MACAO

Eastern, who have no football fixture this week-end, will be visiting Macao during the holidays to return the visit paid by Macao last May.

SPORTS PARADE

of ammunition per range but his first shot can be adjudged a "sighting shot" if he so desires. This means that only seven shots count towards his score. For example if a man scores a "bull" with his first shot, the chances are he will "take" it and only fire a further six shots. If it is a "maggie" or an "outer" he will probably name it a sighting shot and his next seven rounds all count.

Scores are five points for a "bull," four for an "inner," three for a "maggie" and two for an "outer."

As a rule there are three practices, one each at the 300, 500 and 600 yards' ranges.

HITS are signalled by means of a system of black squares on a white board which is raised as the target is lowered for the shot to be marked. A "bull" is indicated by a square in the bottom right hand corner, an "inner" by a square in the bottom left-hand corner, a "maggie" top right and an "outer" top left.

Whilst the man sharing one's target is firing, by means of field-glasses one is able to note the position of

one's shot which is marked by a small patch of white or black paper pasted over the bullet-hole.

Keen shots keep a chart of the positions of their shots and are thus able to estimate wind allowances and generally make corrections on subsequent ranges.

Not the least fascinating aspect of rifle shooting is its uncertainty. A man may be in faultless form one week and "all over the place" the following week.

There is a system of handicapping which is rather like golf. I think the maximum handicap, computed on a minimum of three cards turned in, is 14 and this is reduced as the marksman wins handicap spoons.

A rapidly-improving shot is therefore able to win quite a collection of spoons which are very nice things to have.

It takes a trip to one of these shoots to really appreciate the keenness of the members of the Rifle Association. As they become more proficient and begin to get the hang of the finer points of marksmanship,

so they acquire all sorts of little gadgets calculated to assist them in raising their scores those one or two points which mark the difference between mere mediocrity and first class shooting.

I would strongly recommend members of the Corps to attend one of these shoots, held I think, on Wednesday afternoons and Sunday mornings. Volunteer authorities do all in their power to encourage rifle shooting among Corps members and they would be provided with every facility for becoming real marksmen.

ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH

The following have been selected to represent the University "Past" in their annual match against the "Present" on Monday, 1st January, 1940, commencing at 11.00 a.m., on the University ground, Pokfulam:—D. J. N. Anderson, A. Bakar, E. A. Lee, D. Hung, C. W. Lam, A. T. Lee, A. H. Rumjahn, W. Hong Sling, J. L. Young Saye, E. Zimmermann and F. R. Zimmermann.

C.C.C. TEAM

The following have been selected to represent Craigengower Cricket Club in a friendly cricket match against Club de Recreio on Saturday, commencing at 2.00 p.m., on the home ground:—E. Zimmermann (Capt.), P. J. Billimoria, A. R. H. Esmail, A. J. Hulse, A. K. Ismail, A. T. Lee, E. A. Lee, H. P. Lim, G. Souza, G. Winch and F. R. Zimmermann.

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BADMINTON NOTES

Recreio 'B' Had Grand Chance Of Beating The Champions

Adopted Wrong Tactics, Suffered Consequences

UNIVERSITY'S NEW LADY PLAYERS IN MIXED DIVISION

(By "ADREM")

THERE HAS NOT BEEN a great deal of badminton activity over the week owing to the Christmas recess and only matches to report are the Mixed League encounters on Friday.

I really thought, in the early stages, that University, who are the champions, would lose to Recreio "B" but that was before I saw Miss Ulian Khoo in the offing.

Other two University ladies, although they will undoubtedly improve, cannot at this juncture be classified as championship standard.

Recreio have only themselves to blame for their defeat. Never will they have a better opportunity of causing a big upset than they had that evening. True, from the point of view of their male players University were at full strength, but P. K. Hui, the Colony's premier player, was completely out of practice, Yong had played little more, and their second string lady was unable to turn out.

Result was two girls playing for University in their first match of any description.

Players as experienced as Recreio's should have profited by this. A consistent short game would most certainly have brought results. Instead they played the normal mixed game, clearing deep and smashing down the side-lines.

That type of play will never worry such men players as represented University and try as they did—and they did very well under the circumstances—Recreio men could not quite get there.

Best home player on view was Henry Gonsalves. Playing little last season he has developed to such an extent in recent matches that I cannot see him being left out of the senior men's team much longer. He plays an extremely brainy type of game and smashes and drives well.

When his short game has been worked up he will be fully equipped for any class of local badminton.

Pereira had a bad evening and could not get his shots into working order and Carvalho, who played the first game of the evening and played it well, appeared to suffer from the effects of the long wait before his next game and never touched the same form again.

MISS XAVIER IMPRESSES

Miss Maggie Xavier was the most impressive lady-player. Hitherto my opinion of her as a mixed player had never been very high owing to her penchant for trying to cover too much of the court. On Friday she still covered far more of the court than a

GOOD MATCH TO-DAY

(By "ADREM")

In what should be one of the most interesting matches of the season thus far, Recreio "A" will entertain St. John's in Mixed Doubles Division of the Badminton League at King's Park this evening.

This will be the first real test for Henry Eardley and his sister Miss Declina Eardley, Shanghai mixed champions. Last week against Talkoo they met with little opposition. If they manage to win three games this evening—as they should do if the standard of badminton in Shanghai is on about the same level as Hong Kong's—St. John's have an extraordinarily good chance of winning as they have a vastly-improved pair in David Kwok and Mrs. Peggy Wilson. Other pair will be Frank Kwok and Mrs. Strange.

There is only one change in the Recreio team from last season—C. C. Pereira coming into the side in partnership with Miss Mylthie Silva.

In the other match University should have little difficulty in taking points from Talkoo.

PROGRAMME

Recreio "A" v. St. John's
Talkoo v. University
Recreio "A"—M. A. Oliveira and Miss M. Ribeiro; J. J. Remedios and Miss O. Ribeiro; C. C. Pereira and Miss M. Silva.
St. John's—Mrs. P. Wilson and D. Kwok; Miss D. Eardley and H. Eardley; Mrs. Strange and F. H. Kwok.

lady is usually wont to do but she did it all intelligently.

I liked the way she dropped back to cover her partner when he was drawn out of position, and, being possessed of a good smash and accurate overhead drop-shots, she was able to assume this role efficiently until Gonsalves got back into position.

Miss Silva started off atrociously against Bun and Miss Khoo and could do little right. She improved somewhat in later engagements, however, and supported Pereira well when they defeated Yong and Miss Wee.

Miss Remedios never rose to any great heights of brilliance but her display was adequate.

Chief interest as far as the University team was concerned lay in the performances of the ladies selected to fill the vacancies caused by the graduation of the Misses Josephine Choa and Joyce Anderson.

Diminutive Miss Uheng Khoo (not to be confused with Ulian Khoo) is definitely a player of promise. She is not one of those girls who appear to be more concerned with their appearance on the court than the job in hand, and was a great trier. More experience and she should soon be very good.

Miss Wee is a bit slow for real success but has a good reach.

ULIAN KHOO'S IMPROVEMENT

Miss Ulian Khoo revealed great improvement over her form of last season as she has eradicated many of her former shortcomings, notably in her service. This is not yet classic by any means but she is not now so prone to pop up those loose ones, neither skimmers nor lobs, which simply beg to be "killed".

The University men after they had settled down were quite as good as last year. Yong was up against a hopeless proposition in that Miss Wee was unable to give him much support, and Hui improved progressively throughout the evening.

I was impressed with the form of P.

"A" DIVISION TABLE

	Games	P.	W.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Chinese Y.M.C.A.	2	2	0	18	0	4	
Recreio	2	1	1	7	11	2	
University "A"	1	1	0	8	0	2	
Chung Wah	2	0	2	2	16	0	
University "B"	1	0	1	0	8	0	

BADMINTON PAIRINGS

There were no matches in "B" Division of the Badminton League played in the course of the week and the pairings list remains the same as that published last week.

Following are leading pairings in "A" Division and Mixed Doubles Division.

"A" DIVISION

	Games	P.	L.	W.
C. Au and H. Koh (C.Y.M.C.A.)	6	0	6	
T. J. Ong and F. Koh (Chinese Y.M.C.A.)	6	0	6	
M. A. Oliveira and J. J. Remedios (Recreio)	6	3	3	
L. A. Carvalho and A. M. Silva (Recreio)	6	3	3	
P. H. Wong and P. C. Lau (Chinese Y.M.C.A.)	3	0	3	
P. H. Wong and A. Chong (Chinese Y.M.C.A.)	3	0	3	
P. S. Bun and M. S. Lim (University "A")	3	0	3	
C. K. Lee and H. F. Chen (University "A")	3	0	3	
P. K. Hui and K. L. Yong (University "A")	2	0	2	
C. C. Pereira and A. M. Rodrigues (Recreio)	3	2	1	
S. C. Leung and C. F. Chju (Chung Wah)	3	2	1	
W. C. Chey and S. S. Li (Chung Wah)	6	5	1	

MIXED DOUBLES

	Games	P.	L.	W.
Mrs. P. Wilson and D. Kwok (St. John's)	6	0	6	
Miss O. Ribeiro and J. J. Remedios (Recreio "A")	6	0	6	
Mrs. N. Strange and F. H. Kwok (St. John's)	6	1	5	
H. F. Gonsalves and Miss M. Xavier (Recreio "B")	9	4	5	
Miss M. Silva and M. A. Oliveira (Recreio "A")	6	1	5	
P. K. Hui and Miss Uheng Khoo (University)	3	0	3	
P. S. Bun and Miss Ulian Khoo (University)	3	0	3	
H. Eardley and Miss D. Eardley (St. John's)	3	0	3	
N. Beltrao and Miss S. Remedios (Recreio "B")	3	0	3	
C. C. Pereira and Mrs. A. C. Carvalho (Recreio "B")	3	0	3	
L. A. Carvalho and Miss S. Remedios (Recreio "B")	6	3	3	
Miss M. Ribeiro and L. A. Carvalho (Recreio "A")	3	0	3	
C. C. Pereira and Miss C. Silva (Recreio "B")	6	4	2	
Mr. and Mrs. Kavan (K.C.C.)	6	5	1	
P. Wynter-Blyth and Miss B. Harker (K.C.C.)	3	2	1	
A. L. Fisher and Miss M. Stokes (K.C.C.)	3	2	1	
Mr. and Mrs. R. Main (Talkoo)	6	5	1	

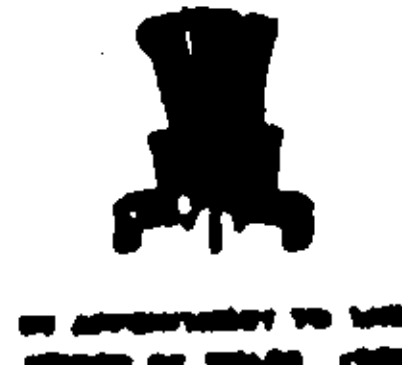
S. Bun, physically slight, but possessed of practically every trick in the game. If his partnership with Miss Ulian Khoo is maintained they should not meet with many defeats.

I understand that in future games University will be assisted by Miss Hung, who has had some experience of League badminton, and their line-up therefore is likely to be: P. S. Bun and Miss Ulian Khoo; K. L. Yong and Miss Hung; P. K. Hui and Miss Uheng Khoo.

NOT WELL-BALANCED

As anticipated, Henry Eardley and sister Declina were not required to exert themselves against Talkoo and dropped only 12 points throughout the evening. I hope to see them in action at an early date, after which it should be possible to gauge their capabilities as compared with the best in Hong Kong.

I feel that University has not the balance to win this Division of the League again but having regard to their capacity for improvement, I would not care to wager to this effect.

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'VARSITY PROSPECTS

(By "ADREM")

With examinations behind them University have started once more to take badminton seriously. Notwithstanding the brilliant form shown by Chinese "Y," who recently accomplished the sensational feat of beating Recreio "A" 9-11, they still feel that the sternest task before them will be their meeting with the latter team at King's Park.

They have a high regard for the capabilities of the Portuguese players, whom they feel, allowed an inferiority complex resultant upon the fact that they were playing on the Bridges Street court, completely demoralise them.

University will not have the services of C. O. Lee who is studying hard, but speak highly of H. F. Chew, their latest recruit from Malaya. He is described as being almost in the same class as Hui.

Chew will partner C. K. Lee, and, as the Lee combination was rather weaker than the other two pairs last season, the team should be even more formidable.

All in all the Badminton League, in all divisions, promises to be as interesting this year as ever. From inquiries made I have certainly detected more individual enthusiasm.



Welsh Carol
Programme Relayed
from London

6.00 p.m.—Rimsky-Korsakov—Le Coq d'Or—Suite. London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Eugene Goossens.
6.27 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations.
6.30 p.m.—Variety with the Eight Piano Ensemble and Val Rosing and Other. Pianos—Dinah (Akst); Lazy Bones (Mercer & Carmichael).... Eight Piano Ensemble.
Vocal—There's Magic In The Air (film 'The Only Girl'); But For You (film 'The Only Girl').... Lillian Harvey (Soprano) with Orch.
Orch.—Squeeze Me (Waller, Williams); Royal Garden Blues—Fox-Trot.... Bob Crosby & His Orchestra.
Vocal—Louisiana Fairy Tale (Parish & Others); In A Little Gypsy Tea Room (Leslie & Burke).... Val Rosing with Orchestra.
Pianos—Rollin' Home (De Rose); Speak Easy (Gensler).... Eight

To-day's Wireless

ZBW 355 M. (845 k.c.'s) and 31.49 M.
9.52 Megacycles

Variety Programmes:
"Laugh Before
Lunch"

Piano Ensemble.
7.00 p.m.—London Relay—"Dai on Leave". A Jack Jones Welsh Programme—The Spirit of Christmas. Carols by the Welsh Singers.
7.30 p.m.—London Relay—The News.
8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.
8.03 p.m.—Dance Music.
Fox-Trots—Tain't No Use; When A Lady Meets A Gentleman Down South.... Teddy Foster & His Kings of Swing.
Tangos—Responso Malevo; Re-Fa-Si.... Juan De Dios Filiberto & His Orquesta Portena.
Waltz—Kisses In The Dark.... Mantovani & His Orchestra.
8.20 p.m.—Studio—Comments on Recent Events.

8.30 p.m.—London Relay—"Laugh before Lunch". A Variety Programme.

9.15 p.m.—London Relay—News Summary.
9.30 p.m.—London Relay—"World Affairs".
9.45 p.m.—A Variety and Dance Programme.
11.00 p.m.—CLOSE DOWN.

FANLING STARTING TIMES

Following are Fanling golf starting times for the week-end:—

SUNDAY
Old Course
9.16 a.m. S. T. Butlin, W. Hewitt.
9.20 .. W. Harper, J. A. McKay.
9.24 .. B. O. Baldwin, M. D. Cooper.
9.28 .. T. E. Pearce, H. G. Sheldon.
9.32 .. N. K. Littlejohn, J. G. Campbell.
9.36 .. J. C. Brown, L. Jackson.
9.40 .. J. M. Pearson, R. C. Stewart.
9.44 .. General Sutton, C. C. Black.
9.48 .. J. Stenersen, F. Groves.
9.52 .. Cdr. Murray, H. H. Mundy.
9.56 .. P. E. Annis, J. W. Clague.
10.00 .. J. W. Mayhew, E. R. McKee.
10.04 .. R. R. de L. Liesching, R. G. Everest.
10.08 .. A. J. Dennis, R. K. Collings.
10.12 .. R. H. Gregory, P. S. Delany.
10.16 .. G. D. Nichol, Lt. Cdr. Ingram.
10.20 .. Major Johnstone, Lt. Cdr. Linton.
10.22 .. W. J. E. Mackenzie, H. Overy.

MONDAY
Old Course
9.16 a.m. L. R. Andrewes, T. McGarry.
9.20 .. A. V. Greaves, W. M. Barton.
9.24 .. M. R. Harrison, J. Linaker.
9.28 .. F. A. M. Elliott, A. M. Mack.
9.32 .. A. Pollard, H. A. Mills.
9.36 .. S. H. Dodwell, A. Sommerfeldt.
9.40 .. A. Mabb, R. M. King.
9.44 .. J. B. Harrison, L. A. R. Duncan.
9.48 .. R. H. Gregory, L. M. S. Lloyd.
10.04 .. A. E. Gerondal, J. C. Brown.
10.32 .. W. J. E. Mackenzie, H. Overy.

New Course
9.24 a.m. Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Lissaman.
9.40 .. Col. and Mrs. Matthews.
10.08 .. Mrs. Gerondal, Mrs. Rowell.
10.32 .. Mrs. Mackenzie, Mrs. Overy.

K.G.C. ACTIVITIES

Following activities are reported by Kowloon Golf Club:—
Stableford Competition:—A. J. Dennis won this Competition by returning a score of 28 (4½) 30½.
Other scores were, H. J. Grose, 19 (11½) 30½, T. Henderson, 19 (10½) 29½.
Members are reminded that a One Club Competition is being held over the New Year holidays.

Winning CONTRACT

(By The Four Aces)

David Bruce Burnstone, Merwin D. Maier, Oswald Jacoby, Howard Schenken... World's leading Team-of-Four, Inventors of the system that has beaten every other system in existence.

THE MAXIMUM SCORE

We're not sure whether or not we like South's bidding of to-day's hand. Nevertheless North brilliantly put him in the right final contract and he secured a top score in the recent Metropolitan Championships.

South, Dealer
Neither side vulnerable
K J 10 9 7 6 2
Q 5 4
A J
A 3
K 8 7 6
Q 9 6 4
Q J 8 7 2
N
W
S
E
K 10 9
A Q 4
A K 10 3
Q K Q 10 6 2
A

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ (1) Pass 1♠ Pass
2♥ (2) Pass 3♠ (3) Pass
4♠ (4) Pass 4♠ (5) Pass
6NT (6) Pass 7NT (7) Pass
Pass Pass

ACE 3
KING 2
QUEEN 1
JACK 0

(1) With a High Card Value of 13 and eight honours, South is too strong for a one-notrump opening.
(2) South does not know exactly what to bid. Hence, he becomes fancy.
(3) Correct.
(4) Continuing to be fancy.
(5) North is willing to play four spades even though his partner may

be void in that suit.
(6) South would have bid six spades in Rubber Bridge.
(7) South's bidding has clearly marked him with the Ace of spades and probably the Queen also. Hence North realizes that his Ace-Jack of diamonds should be enough to ensure the Grand Slam.

Yesterday Howard Schenken was your partner and you held:

10 x x
x
A x x x
K x x x

The bidding:
Schenken Burnstone You Jacoby
1♠ Pass (?)

ANSWER: Your correct bid is two spades. If you happen to bid two diamonds and your partner rebids to two spades, you do not know whether to raise or not.

Score 100% for two spades, 80% for two diamonds, 0 for other bids.

QUESTION NO. 295

You are David Bruce Burnstone's partner to-day and hold:

x x
A K x x
x
K Q x x

The bidding:
Burnstone Maier You Jacoby
1♠ Pass 1♥ Pass
1NT Pass (?)

What do you bid? (Answer tomorrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)



The girl planning to show off new clothes the first fine day finds the one man she can't dictate to is the weather man.

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**NOTICE**

(English)

ARMS LICENCES.

Holders of Arms Licences are reminded that Arms Licences are due for renewal on 1st. January, 1940 (Fee \$10.00 per licence). Licensees should call at the Accounts Office, Police Headquarters between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. daily (Sundays and Public Holidays excepted), with their licences.

(Sd). T. H. KING,
Commissioner of Police.
Hong Kong, 29th. Dec., 1939.

BANK HOLIDAY

In accordance with Government Ordinance, the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of public business on MONDAY, the 1st January, 1940. (The first week-day in January.)

Hong Kong, 28th. Dec., 1939.

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G R

**PUBLIC AUCTION**

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on TUESDAY, the 2nd day of January, 1940, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Shamshui, in the Colony of Hong Kong for a term of 75 years, commencing from 1st July, 1898, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the KING, for one further term of 24 years less the last three days thereof.

Intending bidders are advised that immediately after the disposal of the lot the Purchaser (if not the applicant) will be required to deposit with an authorised officer who will be present at the sale, the sum of two hundred dollars, (\$200) in cash. This sum will be refunded on payment of the Purchase price.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in Square feet	Annual Rental	Upset Price
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
1	New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2749	Between New Kowloon Inland Lots Nos. 452 & 549, Fuk Wing Street, Shamshui.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	About 5,400	\$74	\$6,750
			As per sale plan						

G R

**PUBLIC AUCTION**

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on TUESDAY, the 2nd day of January, 1940, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at King's Road near Quarry Bay, in the Colony of Hong Kong for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the KING, for one further term of 75 years.

Intending bidders are advised that immediately after the disposal of the lot the Purchaser (if not the applicant) will be required to deposit with an authorised officer who will be present at the sale, the sum of two hundred dollars, (\$200) in cash. This sum will be refunded on payment of the Purchase price.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in Square feet	Annual Rental	Upset Price
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
2	Inland Lot No. 5741	Between Inland Lots Nos. 5507 and 5509, King's Road.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	About 15,750	\$22	\$6,025
			As per sale plan						

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NOTICE

The office of the Commercial Secretary to His Majesty's Embassy in China and His Majesty's Trade Commissioner, at Hong Kong, will be closed as from the 1st January, 1940.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on Saturday, the 30th. Dec., 1939, commencing at 11 a.m. at Godowns No. 15 and 16 of The China Provident Loan & Mortgage Co., Ltd., Kennedy Town for account of the concerned

15 Bales Cotton Yarn
786 Bales Old Newspaper
238 Cases Window Glass
2 Cases Cotton Piece Goods
1 Case Cotton Socks
1 Case Canvas Shoes
1 Case Celluloid Combs
1 Case Flashlight Bu's
2 Bales Folding Box Board
86 Bags Stone Powder
39 Bundles Matches Sticks
(All more or less damaged)

Terms: Cash on delivery
LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hong Kong, 28th. Dec., 1939.

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

Saturday, the 30th. Dec., 1939 commencing at 10.00 a.m. at their Sales Room, No. 2 Commaught Road, Central. (Room No. 205, 2nd. Floor)
A Quantity of Valuable Office Furniture and Sundries.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.
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Hong Kong, 29th. Dec., 1939.

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Issued and Fully Paid-up \$30,000,000
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FOR THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
V. M. GRAYBURN,
Chief Manager

Hong Kong, 1st March, 1937.

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SHANGHAI RICE SHORTAGE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Shanghai, To-day.
The shortage of rice is still seriously felt here, although a remedy appears to be in sight.

Twenty thousand bags of Saigon rice are expected to-day, and a further 60,000 bags at the beginning of next week.

The authorities, in co-operation with the Rice Guild, are making all efforts to prevent and punish hoarding and speculation.—Havas.

U.S. SALE OF AIRCRAFT

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

WASHINGTON, TO-DAY.
THE UNITED STATES IS STILL THE PRINCIPAL MARKET FOR PLANES AND WAR MATERIAL, FIGURES RELEASED BY THE TRADE DEPARTMENT REVEAL.

In November, France bought \$32,149,000 worth of arms, chiefly aeroplanes.

Japan's purchases were \$170,522, for spare aeroplane parts.

This figure is explained by the fact that the moral embargo against countries bombing civilians was applied against Japan, and the only orders carried out were those for spare parts for aeroplanes sold with a guarantee of replacement.—Havas.

WEATHER REPORT

The Royal Observatory reports that the anticyclone continues stationary over China and the neighbouring seas, and has increased slightly in intensity.

EUROPEAN'S DEATH MYSTERY

Stephen Michael Tracey, aged 30, who resided in an apartment house at No. 134, Austin Road, was found dead last night at 8.35 p.m.

The body was later removed to the Kowloon Mortuary and a post mortem will be held.

It is learned that Tracey had not been out of doors since Christmas.

Yesterday at about 2 p.m., he received two visitors, and when the boy brought his tea at about 4 p.m. he was pale and ill.

The police were later called and Tracey was found to be dead.

Death is suspected to be due to some form of poisoning.

ESPIONAGE IN U.S.

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Washington, To-day.
The Attorney-General, Mr. Frank Murphy, has announced that a Grand Jury is meeting on January 2 to investigate espionage and sabotage activities.

Mr. Murphy added that the Jury would also investigate the activities of foreign government agents in the United States.—Havas.

MUSSOLINI TO VISIT THE VATICAN

Rome, To-day.

It is officially announced that Signor Mussolini will pay a visit of homage to the Pope on January 4.

This is seen as further indication that the Italian State and the Holy See are drawing closer together against Communism and in the cause of peace. — Reuter.

ABOUT YOUR EYES—A Word to the Wise is Sufficient!

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OPTICIAN

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Berlin, To-day.

After applying the new system for some months, the Soviet Government has re-introduced the censorship of despatches of foreign correspondents, as from to-day, according to the German News Agency, D.N.B.—Reuter.

Shlukwan, To-day.

One third of Shlukwan's population has been evacuated and the city is now under military administration.

The Japanese column in the region east of the railway has been halted and the severest fighting is reported in that area.—Our Own Correspondent.

Kwong Chow Wan, To-day.

Following a disastrous defeat west of Nanning last week-end, the Japanese, strongly reinforced, began a fresh drive towards the French Indo-China border this morning.

Severe fighting is reported since dawn to-day between Nanning and Lungchow.—Our Own Correspondent.

The prefix "Special" to telegrams is used by the "Sunday Herald" and "China Mail" to indicate news which is strictly copyright under the provisions of the Telecommunications Ordinance, 1936, and may not be reprinted under any circumstances, either wholly or in part, without prior arrangement.

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